

Kensington & Chelsea News

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MET CHIEF BEEFS UP THIN BLUE LINE



Parents' fears over 'pool for perverts' at sports centre

Plan for mixed changing rooms

BY GEOFF BAKER
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KENSINGTON and Chelsea Council plans for mixed-sex changing rooms at the swimming baths in Chelsea Sports Centre have raised fears that it will become a pool for perverts.

Swimmers say they are "appalled" by the £17 million refurbishment plans for the changing rooms and showers which they claim will leave them "exposed".

Parents also fear that unisexing the changing and shower facilities could lead to their children being "leered at" by paedophiles.

The plans for what the council bizarrely calls "village change rooms" have been proposed by the council's appointed contractor, Greenwich Leisure Ltd.

Although the council has approved the mixed-sex scheme, local parents are furious and are calling for a change to the changing plans.

"Most of the users that I have spoken to are appalled by the plans to alter the currently segregated changing rooms but despite making our objections clear to the council they seem keen to forge ahead and spend £17 million on the alterations," said Chelsea swimmer Nicola Philippi.

"Currently the ladies changing room has six showers and the men have six. But under the new plans, there will only be six normal showers, three shower/changing cubicles and three family cubicles.

"Because people will take longer to dress in the three shower/changing cubicles and three family cubicles, it will leave the vast majority of swimmers using just six showers instead of the 12 we have currently.

"Swimmers will have to shower wearing their swimming costumes in order to remain decent before

TURN TO PAGE 3



FORMER Girls Aloud starlet Sarah Harding will make her theatrical debut next month, as she joins the cast of *Ghost-The Musical*.

SEE TALK OF THE TOWN PAGE 16

Let's get children reading again

CHILDREN who spend too much time playing with mobile phones instead of reading books risk falling behind their classmates by the time they arrive at secondary school, according to the boss of a west London literacy charity. Annabel James, the acting head of Doorstep Library, said it was more important than ever to find exciting new ways of encouraging youngsters to read amid a climate of library closures.

**THE BIG INTERVIEW
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50 years after *Cathy Come Home* gave the scandal of homelessness national exposure, has anything changed? PAGE 6

New chapter begins in battle to help children learn to love books

BY JACK DIXON

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CHILDREN who spend too much time playing with mobile phones instead of reading books risk falling behind their classmates by the time they arrive at secondary school, according to the boss of a west London literacy charity.

Annabel James, the acting head of Doorstep Library, said it was more important than ever to find exciting new ways of encouraging youngsters to read amid a climate of library closures.

In an interview with *London Weekly News*, she spelled out Doorstep's vision to help hundreds of children fall in love with the written word again.

It came as the Fulham-based charity launched an ambitious new crowdfunding campaign designed to boost its volunteer-led reading support service.

Doorstep Library is publishing its own children's book, *The Bugman's Great Escape*, with a view to raising £20,000 towards the organisation.

Ms James, 52, a trustee at the charity and its current interim manager, said: "Unlike some of the more traditional literacy charities that work in schools, our view is that if we can help children begin to enjoy reading and read for pleasure then it becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy. "Access to books, access to reading, has a real impact on their literacy levels and, therefore, their education and life chances."

Doorstep, which is based in Dawes Road, was launched in 2010 and currently works with families on five housing estates in Hammersmith and Fulham.

A small team of paid staff are supported by an army of 60 volunteers who spend an afternoon a week visiting primary school children and their parents to provide them with books and reading support in their own homes.

Last year it worked with almost 400 children across the five estates and more than 15,000 books were read, borrowed and swapped by the Doorstep families.

"We have tried to work with some of the more vul-



Annabel James, pictured left, the acting head of Doorstep Library, said it was more important than ever to find exciting new ways of encouraging youngsters to read amid a climate of library closures



nerable families and children, people who don't necessarily self-select the help," added Ms James.

"It can be because they are not engaging that much with the schools, so we try to balance that by going into people's homes and building up a rapport, a relationship, and an element of trust."

She also warned that reading was an essential skill for children to develop in order to keep up in the classroom.

"The numbers speak for themselves. So many children arrive at secondary school with a below average reading age and from that point on they are behind," she added.

"I think schools are under a huge amount of pressure to deliver endless testing and some of the kids at the bottom of the class are being slightly overlooked due to

pressures of time."

Ms James, who works as a professional fundraiser, became involved with the charity two years ago after a friend who volunteered told her about the service.

She worked with author Scott Perry on the Bugman project, which aims to generate thousands of pounds to fund the reading service, as the charity seeks to expand beyond Hammersmith and Fulham.

The idea was sparked after Mr Perry, a designer who worked on the charity's rebrand last year, was so inspired by its work he decided to pen his own story.

The campaign was launched on social media last week and will be promoted at the upcoming Chiswick Book Festival.

Ms James said literacy organisations needed to follow Doorstep's lead and find more creative ways to instil children with a passion for reading.

"There are some really sad statistics about the lack of books in homes," she added.

"But there are green shoots of recovery happening around the borough. We certainly get invited to go and run projects in libraries, which is great and we would love to do more. It would be a real shame if libraries are not able to keep functioning."

"I loved reading as a kid but I was really lucky because I had access to books. Once you can do it, you are very self-contained and can learn all sorts of things."

"What Doorstep offers is really simple but incredibly effective and that is what I love about it."

Doorstep Library is on the lookout for more volunteer readers to work with children for one afternoon a week during term-time. For more information visit www.doorsteplibrary.org.uk.

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'Pool for perverts' fear

FROM PAGE 1

walking through the mixed changing area to a private cubicle.

"Two new areas have been set aside for schools and I assume the aim is for them to be single sex changing areas and yet, because there is no double door or screened door, it means that those changing will be 'exposed' to the people using the main changing room.

"Given the current concerns over paedophilia and grooming I wonder how many parents will be happy knowing their children might be leered at by the opposite sex while they are changing?

"I'm worried that because it's the holidays a lot of people are not aware of the plans."

But despite parents' protests, council officers have recommended to that the ruling Cabinet presses ahead with the changes.

Councillors were told in a report on the pool: "The planned village change arrangement for the changing rooms in particular has triggered some debate. During the consultation, some swimmers did express opposition to the village change proposals, preferring to keep the existing single sex arrangements.

"We accept that there will always be some users that are not in favour of the village change concept. However, other groups including the schools and parents with young children of the opposite sex, strongly support the idea as it provides group change areas that the existing single sex layout simply cannot provide for. We believe the village change proposal is the best option given the constraints of the site.

"The changing village arrangement offers a number of benefits for customers over the existing arrangement however including increase in usable space, family change cubicles and much needed group changing rooms for schools, a number of schools have lobbied hard for these.

"Also, by making better use of the amount of limited available space, customers will experience improvements to the air quality and higher specifications of lighting and other fixtures and fittings."

The council defended the changes by claiming that the existing changing rooms are "not really fit for purpose".

It said: "The changing room and toilet facilities at Chelsea Sports Centre are small, old, in a poor state of repair, and configured in an old fashioned and inefficient layout. The swimming pool hall is also old and tired, and in need of substantial refurbishment.

"As a result, these facilities do not meet current membership demand or the modern quality standards the borough aspires to for its leisure centres.

"These new proposals are based on a range of opinions from leisure users, industry experts, architects and politicians. As well as consulting and satisfying existing users, we have an obligation to provide a facility that attracts new users, not just today but into the future."

Recalling a key time in the early carnival history

Leslie Palmer, a key figure in the history of Notting Hill Carnival, talks about the Carnival's 50th anniversary and early support from Westway Trust's first Director.

AS we all get ready for Notting Hill Carnival's 50th anniversary and as I finish preparations for the Notting Hill Carnival Pioneers '1973 Remembered' Community Festival, ahead of the carnival itself on Sunday, August 14th, I want to remember a key time in the early history of the carnival.

Firstly though, I would like to say a big thank you to Angela McConville and Westway Trust for asking me to tell the readers of this column of my role and that of the then fledgling forerunner to the Westway Trust in the birth of the carnival footprint in the North Kensington community.

In the early 1970s the carnival was struggling to establish itself. The event used to take the form of volunteer steel-band players forming a band which traversed the streets of the North Kensington community. Although this had been happening since 1966 there had been no increase in the number of bands or participants.

I believe that without the active assistance and personal intervention and encouragement from Anthony Perry, the first Director of what was then the North Kensington Amenity Trust and is now Westway Trust, that the Notting Hill Carnival would most probably have died a

natural death. Being a local resident himself, Anthony knew that the West Indian community had been struggling to maintain a tradition of an August Bank Holiday celebration in the streets with its origins in the playgrounds of North Kensington and started by Rhaune Laslett in 1966.

Portobello Green is part of the Westway estate created after the Westway flyover was built and is maintained by Westway Trust. In 1971 Anthony Perry made the Green available as the central assembly point to the then organizers as well as donating some initial funds for the hire of a truck to transport the musicians through the streets.

Then in 1973, with 7 weeks to go before the August Bank Holiday weekend and with no replacement coming forward for the previous Carnival organiser Merle Major who was pregnant, Anthony advertised in Time Out magazine for a meeting under the Westway asking for the participation of the residents and for their response regarding whether they wanted the event to continue or not. It was a Sunday afternoon and only five people turned up. I was one of them and I've been involved with the Carnival ever since.

At that meeting I convinced Anthony of the need to include the participation of the other Islanders and in particular, the inclusion of the live music bands and sound systems beloved of the youth.

Anthony provided an office at his headquarters at 3 Acklam Road and lent his organisation's charitable status which we used to raise £700 to launch the event.

We had six steelbands, six reggae and soul bands and six sound systems, dotted beneath the Westway and the surrounding streets. Three costume bands also made an appearance, signalling the beginning of the costume tradition, and there were stalls selling West Indian food on the Trust's land.

The event attracted 50,000 people and received front page coverage on national broadsheets and tabloids and in the spring of 1974 I was able to exhibit the photos and slides of the event for two weeks on the walls of the Westway Information Centre on Ladbroke Grove.

The carnival's template was therefore decisively drawn on that historic day and it is for that momentous occasion that we want the community to join us and Westway Trust to celebrate again this year.

Not only does this mark the 50th anniversary of the carnival's beginning but it also comes in the year that Anthony Perry died. Our showcase presents tributes to some of the neighbourhood's well known West Indian musicians and DJs and this year features Gaz Mayall who has been staging terrific shows on Talbot Road for the past 20 years, with Rico All-Stars, a tribute to Jools Holland's former trombonist Rico Rodriguez, which will pay homage to Aswad, and the soundsystems Invaders and Special Edition, among many others. We want as many members of the local community there as possible to celebrate great local figures including Anthony Perry, without whom our wonderful carnival tradition would not exist.



TO THE EDITOR

'Huge benefits' will follow Crossrail 2

SIR - My support for a Crossrail 2 station on the King's Road, and indeed the Council's, is not predicated on the prospect of big money from property developments, despite what Gillespie Robertson would have people believe.

For me this is all about a massive improvement in public transport and the huge benefits that will follow.

We know the difference a station will make for so many people. The area is not well served by public transport today and with a rising population the strain on existing rail and bus services will only get worse.

I have to disagree with Mr Robertson's view that Crossrail 2's basic purpose is regeneration. I think it is about increased transport capacity and connec-

tivity and the benefits that follow.

If TfL only built stations in regeneration areas, it would have a line linking jobless areas to other jobless areas. Some of the people living in homes up and down the line will want to access the jobs within walking distance of a King's Road station.

I'm afraid I am not convinced by the numbers Mr Robertson cites as opponents of the station. It is not at all clear that people who responded to the TfL consultation were necessarily in possession of all the facts.

I appreciate some will have read TfL's material but sadly many may have built up a picture of what a Crossrail 2 station would mean based on misleading claims by the No Campaign. It is worth noting

that even the prayer used in the No Campaign's petition invited people to oppose a form of development very far from what is actually proposed by TfL.

Finally, I really must take issue with claims that social housing is somehow threatened by a Crossrail 2 station. It is not.

For there to be a loss of affordable housing, the council and the Mayor would both have to abandon their statutory housing policies. That is obviously not going to happen.

**Councillor Tim Coleridge,
Cabinet Member for Planning Policy
and Transport
Royal Borough of Kensington and
Chelsea**

Unplug your kids' mobile - and play!

KENSINGTON and Chelsea Council has launched a new drive to get children off their phones.

In welcome news to parents, the council has started an "Unplug and Play" campaign as part of its Go Golborne's Summer Challenge.

Families at Emslie Horniman's Pleasance enjoyed a range of activities including sports sessions, African dancing and hula hooping. The event also included food-growing classes and arts and crafts workshops.

"The aim of the challenge is to encourage children to switch off their TVs, games consoles, computers and phones and get out and about and complete the activities outlined in the 'Unplug & Play 45 Things To Do In Golborne' guide," said a Council spokesman.

Each time a child takes part in an activity they can tick it off in the guide. Children who return the completed guides to their schools in September are in with a chance of winning a range of prizes including: a bike, free swimming sessions and family tickets to the zoo.

"Unplug & Play, which was launched following reports that children should spend no more than two hours a day on screens, is the latest campaign from the Go Golborne project that aims to help children and their parents make healthy lifestyle choices," said the spokesman.

Speaking at the launch, the Royal Borough's Cabinet Member for Families and Children, Councillor Elizabeth Campbell said: "I was pleased to see so many young people having fun and enjoying taking part in the sports and dancing sessions.

"While computer games can be a source of enjoyment it is important to make children aware that screen time should be limited each day."

Keen on football? Go into Banking!

NEW research from a Kensington fitness club has revealed that children's sport choice at school can affect the career they choose - for instance, taking up karate is apparently good for journalism.

According to findings from researchers for the David Lloyd Club on the Cromwell Road, pupils keen on football make good bankers and those who study dancing at school will be perfect working for the council.

The research claims that sport gives students motivation and a drive to find a career, with the typical job choices of sporty children being:

Football - Accountancy, Banking and Finance; Swimming - Retail; Tennis - Healthcare; Athletics - Technology & IT; Netball - Teaching; Hockey - Creative Arts and Design; Dance - Public Services; Gymnastics - Engineering and Manufacturing; Rugby - Business, Consulting and Management; Judo / Karate - Media and Journalism.

The club also discovered that the average parent starts to think about the sports they could enroll their children into before they even turn five years of age.

Only one refugee family in the borough

BY GEOFF BAKER

geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

KENSINGTON and Chelsea's hope to provide homes for 50 refugees from Syria has fallen flat on its face – 10 months on and only one refugee family has been re-homed in the royal borough.

The first family, a young couple with a child, arrived this week.

An almost-total lack of affordable housing for the refugees has stymied the council's big-hearted plan to re-settle families fleeing the war zone.

The Labour-led move to take in refugees in London's most expensive borough has been trashed by landlords demanding a fortune in rent and the council cannot afford the market rate.

Now the council has launched an urgent appeal for landlords to lower their rents so that the authority can keep its pledge to re-home all of the desperate families.

Last October, Labour councillors backed by local campaigners pushed through a motion to take in 50 refugees.

At the time, Labour councillor Robert Thompson told the council that this would be "easy".

However, it has proved anything but – because private landlords are asking so much for their properties that their prices are beyond the council's limit.

At last autumn's key council meeting Councillor Thompson, who proposed the move, said: "Our borough is extraordinarily diverse and has been shaped by waves of immigration including numerous political refugees. We are a borough in which many of our residents have already found a safe sanctuary from per-

secution and in which many would like to see us continue in that noble moral tradition.

"We are a borough which also benefits from strong civic organisations and faith communities. We are also a rich borough in which many of us benefit from much wealth and privilege. We are a borough with extensive human and financial resources and expertise that can easily welcome 50 refugees. If we cannot who can?"

But Councillor Thompson's confidence that the borough would have no problem in re-homing the refugees has proved to be hugely optimistic.

Although council officials and charities have been working for almost a year to source suitable properties, they have drawn almost a complete blank.

The council agreed to take in the refugees on the condition that council homes, of which there are none free, were not used to house them and that any property would have to be provided at the Local Housing Allowance rate.

The Local Housing Allowance rate for a two-bedroom flat in Kensington and Chelsea is £302.33 per week.

But finding enough properties at that price in London's most expensive borough has proved to be impossible.

Two-bedroom flats currently on the market in the Ladbroke Grove area range from £360 per week for one in Great Western Road to £595 per week for another in Denbigh Road.

In the Fulham Road same-size flats are on the market for a weekly rent of £700 and the price rockets elsewhere – £825 in Kensington High Street, £875 in the Brompton Road, £975 in Park

Walk and £992 in Wrights Lane.

A council source said: "In the normal course of events, we have to house many people in temporary accommodation outside of the borough but that is not the deal with the refugees, they have to be housed in the borough.

"Finding homes for all of these people in the borough is going to be a difficult task because our ability to provide accommodation is dependent on us finding private landlords in the borough prepared to accept a lower than market rent – it's not easy in the slightest and at present we have re-homed only one refugee.

"A Syrian family in Turkey that we had expected to arrive before now were only due this week. Because of the coup attempt they had been delayed. But a flat is ready and waiting for them."

The first local couple to provide a home for the refugees are husband and wife husband and wife Simon Winchester and Philippa Giles, who offered a flat in the borough for a period of three years at rent consistent with the Local Housing Allowance.

Mr Winchester said: "My wife and I were very moved by the great difficulties facing the refugees. These people have had their lives turned upside down and they have absolutely nothing."

He urged other landlords to now come forward and provide rooms for the other 47 refugees that the council has pledged to resettle.

"Obviously it is an individual thing but if people are in a position to help then I absolutely urge them to do so. Clearly one has to forego some rent in order

to do this, but these people need our help."

A Council spokesman confirmed that the refugee plan has otherwise failed.

He said: "Last October the council agreed that the Royal Borough should offer to resettle 50 refugees from Syria. Since then it has worked with the RBKC Refugees Welcome Committee to identify suitable properties and private sector landlords who would be willing to provide accommodation at a Local Housing Allowance rate, rather than a private market rate.

"We knew that this would not be an easy task as we are the second smallest borough in the country with some of the most expensive housing, both for sale and rent.

"Together with the Welcome Committee, we have identified one property and are expecting a family to arrive shortly. This flat has been generously

offered by a private landlord at a considerably lower rent than what would be charged if it was on the private market.

"Because of increasing homelessness and the pressure on council and housing association properties, we have to place a proportion of homeless households in temporary accommodation outside the borough and our ability to house refugees in Kensington and Chelsea rests on the generosity of private sector landlords willing to provide suitable accommodation at lower rents than they would normally charge."

Now the council is appealing for private landlords prepared to take in refugees on a lower-than-market rent to contact them as a matter of urgency as, on the Syrian border, dozens of families are clinging to the scant hope of starting a new life.

NEWS FROM NICK

Cllr Nick Paget-Brown explains why the Council has taken steps to protect the borough's launderettes



Back in my university days I'd pop into my local launderette when I was down to my last pair of socks and a visit home to Mum's washing machine skills wasn't on the horizon for a few weeks.

I'd often while away a Sunday afternoon people-watching, reading the newspapers and enjoying the chance to switch off for an hour and completely relax.

Back in the day there was a launderette on every high street. It was a phenomenon reflected in the popular culture of the time, when a TV commercial set in one rescued the ailing sales of Levi 501s. Even Dot Cotton's fictional launderette in the soap opera EastEnders has been the backdrop for countless dramas and revelations.

In 1980 there were around 50 launderettes in Kensington and Chelsea but today just 18 remain.

While times have changed and washing machines are no longer as expensive as they once were, launderettes are still used by many of our residents who cannot afford a washing machine or when their homes cannot accommodate one.

In April, the Government granted a new permitted development right for launderettes located outside conservation areas, removing the need for planning permission to change their use to residential.

Seven of our launderettes lie outside conservation areas and to ensure any changes to a launderette's use still require planning permission, last month the Council applied for a 'non-immediate Article 4 Direction' which would remove these new permitted development rights.

This would come into effect after a year (in July 2017, subject to the results of a consultation) and it's a sensible step we've taken because of the huge sums of money that residential property can command.

In fact, this isn't the first time we've stepped in to ensure our community has a mix of amenities. In 2015, after lobbying the government for several years, Kensington and Chelsea was just one of a handful of local authorities allowed to retain its exemption from planning rules that allows suitable offices to be converted into residential property without planning permission.

We aren't saying that launderettes should remain launderettes forever, but that any change of use must be properly scrutinised against all of our well-developed planning policies.

The consultation on the Article 4 Direction for launderettes will run until Friday 2 September 2016. Full details are on the planning pages of the Council's website www.rbkc.gov.uk/planning



To contact the Leader of the Council, Cllr Nick Paget-Brown, please email theleader@rbkc.gov.uk

Heroes meet up with heroes

A GROUP of six Chelsea Pensioners and staff of the Royal Hospital Chelsea have visited a Personnel Recovery Centre in Tidworth, Wiltshire.

Tedworth House, run by Help for Heroes, provides support to serving and veteran members of the Armed Forces who have been wounded, injured or become sick.

As part of the visit, the Chelsea Pensioners were taken around the complex on a tour of the residential facilities and the Phoenix Centre, a state of the art fitness centre which comprises of multiple facilities including an indoor ski simulator and archery range, both of which the Chelsea Pensioners were given access to (see photos).

Joining the Chelsea Pensioners on the trip was Lt Col Rupert Lucas, a Captain of Invalids at the Royal Hospital Chelsea, who said: "The In-Pensioners really love going to Tedworth House as they feel it is very worthwhile to engage with the Wounded, Injured and Sick Personnel who are there."

Chelsea Pensioner Dennis Muir, who has been to Tedworth House on many previous trips, said: "I feel that we are doing something really positive by going to Tedworth, meeting the young men and women and making them smile."

Beware of the council con man

RESIDENTS of Kensington and Chelsea have been warned to beware a con man posing as a council official who is aiming to clean out their bank accounts.

The Council has issued an urgent alert for residents to put the phone down on the "genuine-sounding" trickster who is operating in the royal borough.

The Council made the warning after learning that a man posing as an official from its Council Tax Department has been calling to ask for residents' bank details.

"An elderly resident was called by a man claiming to be from the Council who said that due to her property being incorrectly banded she now qualified for a council tax refund. In order for her to get this refund he asked for her bank details," said a Council spokesman.

"The man sounded genuine and was very convincing. Thankfully the resident did not give her bank details."

The spokesman added: "Nobody from the Council would ever call a resident to ask for their bank details and we would urge anyone who is approached to contact the Council Tax Department directly."

"If you are in any doubt about anyone approaching you claiming to be from the Council Tax Department please call Council Taxline 020 7361 3005."



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50 years on, what chance has Cathy

BY JACK DIXON

jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

HOUSING providers have vowed to tackle the scourge of homelessness on the streets of Shepherd's Bush as part of a united front against the appalling living conditions still experienced by thousands of Londoners.

A network of housing associations have teamed up to lobby politicians for urgent action to lift people out of poverty.

The Homes For Cathy campaign marks the 50th anniversary of Ken Loach's groundbreaking film, *Cathy Come Home*, which brought to light the slum-like conditions in mid-60s London.

The Shepherd's Bush Housing Group, which was set up in 1968, less than two years after the film hit television screens, is helping to drive the campaign.

In a rallying cry to housing providers across the country this week, bosses promised to do everything in their power to wipe out homelessness in London over the next 50 years.

Mary Canavan, the group's director of business support, told *London Weekly News*: "The cruel reality and the long-term effect of the splitting up of families as seen in *Cathy Come Home* was intolerable for the parishioners of St Stephen's Church in Shepherd's Bush, who were determined to help local people.

"While the issue of homelessness still blights London and many areas of the country, we continue to play our role in tackling it. We have done this for almost 50 years and will continue to do so."

SBHG was formed in the aftermath of increased public awareness about the plight of homelessness triggered by *Cathy Come Home*.

The film, which was broadcast on the BBC to seven million people in 1966, brought the issue to a mainstream audience for the first time.

Many of the problems resonated with parishioners at St Stephen's, who decided to take action against the chronic shortage of quality housing that gave free rein to slum landlords.

The Reverend John Asbridge, who was the vicar at St Stephen's in 1966 and founded the housing group, recalled the shocking standards that made life a misery for many in Shepherd's Bush at the time.

"I was appalled by what I saw. People were being compelled to pay high rents or were being kicked out. Families of four or five lived in one room with a kitchen on the landing and a shared bathroom.

"The last thing that people wanted was a blessing. They wanted a proper home."

In the 50 years since the film's broadcast, SBHG has worked with partners across the capital to provide decent homes for Londoners.

But despite the group's

many success stories, Ms Canavan said some of the issues were still prominent in the poorest parts of the capital.

"From our first home in Hammersmith Grove, we now have more than 5,000, so local people can continue to live in the areas they know and love, close to their work and family," she added.

"Almost 1,000 of those are shared ownership as well as sheltered housing for the elderly and supported housing for young people.

"At the moment people are moving into the new homes we have built above the Irish Cultural Centre in Hammersmith. Our staff are committed to this, both at work and outside the office."

SBHG is taking the lead on housing by working with several other associations across the country to drive the Homes For Cathy campaign.

It aims to reawaken politicians to the plight of homeless people living in west London and the need for schemes to reduce the numbers of families staying in temporary accommodation.

The campaign also hopes to educate future generations about the issue by working with schools to start a big debate among London's youngsters.

Tenants are also being encouraged to share their own experiences of poor living conditions for a series of personal stories.

David Bogle, chief executive of the Hightown Housing Association and a spokesman for the campaign, said: "Despite housing associations and others building hundreds of thousands of homes over the last 50 years, the problem of homelessness has not gone



away.

"Today more and more families are being accepted as homeless by local authorities up and down the country, and last Christmas over 100,000 children were in temporary accommodation. There is simply not enough affordable housing around to meet their housing needs."

Ill-fated mother left to fend for herself

WORKING-CLASS Cathy, played by Carol White, pictured, is the doomed protagonist of Ken Loach's iconic docudrama, which was featured as part of the BBC's *Wednesday Play* series.

She marries her sweetheart, Reg, and the couple move into a larger apartment hopeful that, despite their modest income, they will be able to afford the rent on two salaries.

When Cathy falls pregnant,



Bleak house, and things only get worse for Cathy, played by Carol White, in Ken Loach's docudrama



and then again, the love story turns sour. Struggling to make ends meet, it is not long before the pair find themselves in dire financial straits.

The couple are shifted from home to home in search of stability but their lives become increasingly fragile. After being booted out of an apartment by an unscrupulous landlord, they are forced to leave a caravan park following a fire.

Even Reg's own mother shows them the door after she and Cathy have an argument.

Reg and Cathy are split when Cathy is forced to live with children in a women's shelter. Increasingly despondent at his failure to provide for his family, the couple begin to drift apart and Cathy is left to fend for herself as she struggles to maintain custody of her children.

Drama that highlighted homelessness

THIS November marks the 50th anniversary of the first showing of *Cathy Come Home* on BBC television.

Written by Jeremy Sandford and directed by Ken Loach, the drama documentary highlighted the desperate plight of a homeless family in London in the 1960's and had a powerful effect on television viewers. Years later in 1998, it was voted the 'best single television drama' in a *Radio Times* poll.

The play led to a public outcry about the problem of homelessness. Up and down the country people came together – often in partnership with their local churches – to form housing associations in their town or city to provide homes for homeless people.

Despite housing associations and others building hundreds of thousands of homes over the last 50 years, the problem of homelessness has not gone away. Today more and more families are being accepted as homeless by local authorities



David Bogle is a partner member of the Homes for Cathy campaign

up and down the country, and last Christmas over 100,000 children were in temporary accommodation. There is simply not enough affordable housing around to meet their housing needs.

A group of housing associations that were formed in the *Cathy Come Home* era have come together to mark the 50th anniversary of the programme, and to highlight the continuing needs of homeless people.

The 'Homes for Cathy' group will be organising a range of local and national events and initiatives in the months leading up to and around the anniversary. They will be liaising with the National Housing Federation, Shelter, Crisis and other groups campaigning for homeless people and hope to work with the media, members of the House of Lords and the Cardboard Citizens Theatre workshop, amongst others.

David Bogle, chief executive of Hightown Housing Association, one of the partner members of the Homes For Cathy campaign

got of finding place to come home to?

BY JACK DIXON

jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

THE Reverend John Asbridge was the vicar of St Stephen's Church in Shepherd's Bush in 1966 when Ken Loach's legendary film appeared on television screens.

Now in his late 80s, he recalls how the cruel realities of slum living conditions were in sharp contrast to London's 'swinging 60s' image.

"I was appalled by what I saw. It was the time of the slum landlord, Rachman. People were being compelled to pay high rents or were being kicked out. Families of four or five lived in one room with a kitchen on the landing and a shared bathroom.



The Reverend John Asbridge, pictured above right, was the vicar of St Stephen's Church in Shepherd's Bush in 1966. He recalls how the cruel realities of slum living conditions were in sharp contrast to London's 'swinging 60s' image



If you've got £5 million to spare, apartments with link to Harrods

A 1970s multi-storey car park is set to be turned into a luxury retirement home – with a tunnel leading directly into HARRODS.

Apartments in the Knightsbridge development are expected to start at around £5 million.

For the sizeable price, residents will get access to a large swimming pool and gym as well as a health and fitness suite.

There will also be a huge communal lounge which opens into a dining area.

But it is easy access to the world's best-known department store which will be one of the most enticing selling points about the retirement home.

The site, which is currently an ugly car park, was once a warehouse used by Harrods, with the two buildings connected by an underground subway.



New apartments replacing this car park will command around £5M

While not in the official plans, there are discussions about the tunnels being reopened when the development is completed, which will be in less than three years.

The as-yet unnamed development will be made up of four, one-bedroom units and 28, two-bedroom units.

Along with the luxury accommodation and relaxing

leisure facilities, the retirement complex will also have a medical centre.

Property prices in Knightsbridge have slumped by 7.3 per cent over the past 12 months, according to research from Knight Frank. But luxury apartments in the exclusive area can still sell for between £4,000 and £7,000 per sq/ft – meaning the flats could cost from £5 million.

Plans were submitted to the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea earlier this year.

The C-shaped building will be set around a central courtyard with three storeys of basements. While a contemporary design, the building will be clad in terracotta like Harrods.

Council bosses described the plans as "acceptable" and gave it the go-ahead at the end of July.

"I had the advantage that as a priest, I was allowed in. The last thing that people wanted was a blessing. They wanted a proper home."

The Reverend rallied round friends and contacts from all corners of Shepherd's Bush with a plan to source and let suitable properties for families in need.

Curate Wilfred Wood, who went on to become Britain's first black bishop, was among the group's founding fathers, alongside stage and screen actress Elizabeth Barnes.

After a year spent sourcing and collecting loans and donations, the newly-formed committee bought its first property – a dilapidated four-storey building at 220 Hammersmith Grove.

"We paid £10,000 to buy it and convert it into four flats," the Reverend recalled.

"Once we had our first home there was a real difference in the committee. I got permission from the church council to use the vestry as an office and that is where we would see people. They were knocking on the door to get on the list.

"For the first couple of years we were run entirely by volunteers. That included collecting the rent."

Reverend Asbridge went

on to run the association for the next 20 years, desperate to help those he found faced with family breakdown caused by poor housing and overcrowded conditions.

He observed that loneliness became a significant factor in the Shepherd's Bush community as people rooted in the area were forced to leave in search of a home.

Changes in legislation during the mid-1970s enabled the group to build new homes, including 40 flats that were opened on land adjoining St Clements Church on Fulham Palace Road.

It also began to offer support services, such as budgeting, at a time when rising fuel bills were a major concern for many households.

By the time Reverend Asbridge stepped down from his role in 1988, the association had created 2,400 homes and grown to a staff of 50.

Looking back on his time at the helm, he added: "When I think of housing associations, I think they fulfilled the dreams of people."

Are you affected by London's housing crisis? Share your views with readers of the London Weekly News. Email reporter Jack Dixon at: jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

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Point of view *Geoff Baker*

Dear Mayor Khan, Do you have YouTube in your house? Good, well go on it now and type in 'Emily Lee - Special' and then watch any of the several videos of her playing the song.

I think the one posted by Andy Barnes is the best, or at least it would be if some peasants in the audience weren't talking over her performance.

What in the name of all that is right and proper is the fact that only 265 people have

viewed this video? What manner of blockheadery is so going on at City Hall that I have had to draw your attention to this song?

This shouldn't be on YouTube with less than 300 views garnered in a year. This song should be at No 1. It should have been at No 1 for weeks. It should be featured on Emily Lee: Greatest Hits. There should be vids of Emily Lee performing it at the O2, alongside other footage of vast crowds of fans singing along to

it in arenas across Europe, weeping along to it and generally being moved by one of the finest broken-heart love songs that I have ever heard.

And yet do you know, Mr Mayor, where you are most likely to hear Emily Lee singing it instead? On the South Bank, busking it.

Most days down near Waterloo you'll find Emily Lee singing Special. She's been singing it there for quite a while now and that's a disgrace. Do you know why she

sings it on the South Bank? Because there is an outrageous lack of places in the city for her to sing it anywhere else.

Like many thousands of London's hugely-talented young musicians, Emily Lee has nowhere to regularly go and perform properly. Why? Because previous incumbents of the Mayor's Office have allowed club after club across the capital to be closed so that developers can turn them into flats for the rich.

The recent years of London authorities' lickspittle slaving to developers who serve only the wealthy has stymied the chances of our young entertainers and it's about time that you, Mr Mayor, did something about it.

I read in May and again in June that one of your "top four priorities" was to appoint a 'Night Tsar' who would protect the music scene in our clubs and pubs and get more of them opened up for stars of the future like Emily Lee.

Well go on then, what are you waiting for? Are you actually familiar with the definition of the word "priority"? Call me an old-fashioned pedant, but in my book "priority" tends to mean not hanging about.

Perhaps you have appointed a Night Tsar already and have neglected to tell us about it, but I can't find any mention of this. Or perhaps you have appointed someone who is already so manifestly inept at the promotion which is key to the gig that nobody knows he or she has got the job.

When you last talked up this Night Tsar at City Hall, on May 18th, you also said that you would further protect the club scene and thus enable new talent by launching "a number of Creative Enterprise Zones, providing dedicated small workspace with live-in space so that creative industries, artists and the fashion industry are given extra support to flourish".

That's no ruddy good, which fatuous grey suit sold you that idea? Young musicians don't need "live-in small workspaces", they're already playing in their little flats to an audience of nil.

They need performance venues, somewhere that people can go and pay to watch them, somewhere they can build a following, where record company scouts can check them out and sign them up.

So here's a better idea. Rather than ghettoise young musicians in these small workspaces of yours, which by definition you can't get a crowd in, how about dipping into your Mayoral trough and setting up Khan Clubs?

Khan Clubs [thought you'd like that one] could be music venues owned by City Hall, run by City Hall and with profits returning to City Hall,



Singer-songwriter Emily Lee has nowhere to perform other than the streets of London

and run with the express purpose of discovering and breaking the stars of tomorrow.

You need to be London's own promoter, lad.

And don't say "where?" According to CAMRA, 10 pubs close every week in London, so it's not as if there is a shortage of potential venues. Get in there, buy up an initial few and turn them into places run by the city for the new talent of the city. They will flourish.

You want to "make sure the city's creative sectors are given the support they need", so support them; give them somewhere where they can perform - that's the key thing about music, it doesn't much work if it can't be heard.

Stop busking, Mr Mayor, talent like Emily Lee deserves better.

has led to a reduction in animal call-outs but there is still a lot to do to dispel the old stereotype about firefighters rescuing cats from trees.

"What is worrying is that when firefighters are out rescuing animals, they are not available to attend real emergencies."

The brigade attended a total of 526 call-outs for animal rescues last year - one every 16 hours - and spent on average £16,500 a month.

Due to the brigade's I'm An Animal, Get Me Out Of Here campaign, the figure has fallen from a high of 650 in 2011/12. But renewed calls are being made for Londoners not to call 999 when they find an animal in a tight spot.

Animal rescues are pet hates

FIREFIGHTERS in west London are wasting thousands of pounds every week on unnecessary animal rescues, it has emerged.

Officers were called to a series of bizarre incidents last year, including a chicken that was stuck in a tree and a squirrel hanging from a satellite dish.

The London Fire Brigade says it has reduced the number of animal rescues by 20 per cent since launching an awareness campaign.

But officers have warned that the figure is still far too high and could cost human lives.

London Fire Commissioner Ron Dobson said: "I am pleased that our campaign

Some of the other bizarre incidents included a ferret trapped in a lift shaft, a squirrel stuck in a gutter and a snake on the loose in a flat.

Mr Dobson added: "If there is a cat up a tree or an animal stuck anywhere, the first port of call should always be the RSPCA - not the emergency services.

"Pet owners need to keep a close eye on their animals in a bid to avoid some of these situations happening."

John Grant, the RSPCA's chief superintendent for the south, said: "We work very closely with the emergency services and their highly-trained crews have assisted in many animal rescues over the years."

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Tesco Classic Metro	17-25 Regent Street	London	SW1Y 4LR
Sainsbury's Store	38 Stratton Street	Mayfair	W1J 8LT
Sainsbury's Store	15-17 Tottenham Court Road	Central London	W1T 1BJ
Co-op	504-506 Harrow Road	Paddington	W9 3QA
Tesco Classic Metro	22-25 Bedford Street	London	WC2E 9ED
Co-op	Golden Cross House	London	WC2R 0RG
Notting Hill Gate Library	1 Pembridge Square	Notting Hill	W2 4EW
Kensal Library	20 Golborne Road		W10 5PF
Coach & Horses Pub	23 Greek Street	Soho	W1D 5DH
Pimlico Library	Lupus Street	Pimlico	SW1V 3EY

Kensington & Chelsea NEWS pick up points

Kensington Central Library	Philimore Walk	Kensington	W8 7RX
North Kensington Library	108 Ladbroke Grove	Kensington	W11 1PZ
Brompton Library	210 Old Brompton Road	London	SW5 0BS
The Tabernacle, Notting Hill	35 Powis Square	Notting Hill	W11 2AY
Chelsea Library	Chelsea Old Town Hall	Chelsea	SW3 5EZ
Chelsea Sports Centre	Chelsea Manor Street	Chelsea	SW3 5PL
Avonmore Lib. & Neighbourhood Ctr	North End Crescent		W14 8TG

Fulham Chronicle pick up points

Fulham Library	598 Fulham Road		SW6 5NX
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Hammersmith CHRONICLE pick up points

The Grove Neighbourhood Centre	7 Bradmore Park Road	Hammersmith	W6 0DT
Hammersmith Library	Shepherd's Bush Road		W6 7AT

Shepherd's Bush CHRONICLE pick up points

Westfield Library	6 Wood Lane		W12 7BF
Askew Road Library	87-91 Askew Road		W12 9AS



Shepherd's Bush Market

Traders celebrate after saving popular market

BY JACK DIXON

jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

MARKET traders were celebrating a landmark legal victory this week after developers backed down from a long-running battle over the future of Shepherd's Bush Market.

Landowner Orion has withdrawn its appeal against a High Court ruling that will block the planned redevelopment of the historic market.

Lawyers representing the traders said the case had taken its "final twist" after a series of courtroom battles over the last two years.

Stallholders argued that the developer's plans for a new-look market and luxury homes would destroy the character of the trading community and force some businesses out.

The Shepherd's Bush Market Tenants' Association took its legal challenge to the High Court in August 2015 and eventually secured an important ruling in the Court of Appeal earlier this year.

Now they are claiming victory after the developer pulled out of its own appeal against the ruling.

James Horada, the association's chairman, said: "The traders are grateful that their fight to protect their rights has been successful and that common sense has prevailed."

"Over the past two and a half years the traders have been placed under a great deal of duress. The market has suffered under poor management, causing businesses to fold and footfall to drop."

"It is now time to right the wrongs and we

hope that the threat to the existing businesses will now be put to rest and that the traders' futures will be secured."

The legal challenge began when former Communities Secretary Eric Pickles controversially overruled an independent inspector's recommendation that Orion's plans to develop the site should be refused.

A compulsory purchase order was imposed, paving the way for the development to go ahead.

But the ruling was overturned after the traders made a fresh legal challenge at the Court of Appeal in February.

The order has now been quashed and Orion has backed out of a proposed appeal in the Supreme Court.

It means the developer must go back to the drawing board and work with Hammersmith and Fulham council to devise new plans for the site.

Mr Horada added: "We now hope that there will be positive and constructive dialogue between all parties and we look forward to the traders being treated with respect whilst sensible and fair proposals and investments are offered to aid and strengthen the long-standing businesses of Shepherd's Bush Market."

Orion declined to comment when contacted by the Chronicle.

Hammersmith MP Andy Slaughter praised the "tenacity and courage" of the market traders and said the proposed development would have "ripped the heart out of Shepherd's Bush".

ANOTHER
CHRONICLE
EXCLUSIVE

Beatrix Potter's most famous character hails from Shepherd's Bush

HER playful tales of woodland animals enraptured generations of readers young and old – but on the 150th anniversary of Beatrix Potter's birthday a new revelation has emerged about the origin of her most famous character.

According to documents unearthed for a new display about the author, Peter Rabbit was born right here in Shepherd's Bush.

Experts at the Victoria & Albert Museum dug up papers that point to Uxbridge Road as the birth place of Potter's beloved hero.

Details about the character's origins were revealed last week as the museum's latest exhibition, Beatrix Potter's London, opened to the public.

The display highlights the fact that Potter bought a Belgian buck rabbit in Uxbridge Road in the early 1890s "for the exorbitant sum of 4/6".

It is understood that the author named her new pet Peter Piper and spent hours sketching him and taking him for walks around her Kensington home.

Potter is quoted: "Peter used to lie before the fire on the hearth rug like a cat. He was clever at learning tricks, he used to jump through a hoop and ring a bell, and play the tambourine."

One of the drawings, dating back to 1899, is included in the display, which opened at the museum in Knightsbridge on July 28 – the 150th anniversary of Potter's birth.

It appears that 'Peter Piper' was the principal inspiration behind the author's famous Peter Rabbit character, the hero of her children's book The Tale of Peter Rabbit.



A number of Beatrix Potter originals were put up for sale in west London in June.

A spokesman for the V&A said: "Born in Kensington, [Potter] regularly visited her local galleries and museums, including the V&A and the Natural History Museum, to foster her study of art and natural history."

"London was also home to almost all of her publishing ventures, including her most famous book, The Tale of Peter Rabbit."

The museum's new display is not the first event held in west London this summer to celebrate the anniversary.

In June a collection of Potter rarities, including several first editions, were put up for auction at Peter Harrington book shop in Fulham Road, Chelsea.

Some of the most sought-after items from the author's extensive cannon of children's stories were marketed for up to £75,000.



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SOW THE SEEDS OF LOVE

Drug dealers jailed for 23 years

ANDRE De St Aubin, of Prothero Road, Fulham, was one of six men who were sentenced for their part in a sophisticated drug-dealing operation in Kingston.

In June the 19-year-old was convicted of conspiracy to supply cocaine and handed a lengthy prison sentence last month.

The six men will serve more than 23 years between them after appearing at Kingston Crown Court.

Police recovered 21 wraps of cocaine with a potential street value of around £1,000 from a moped linked to De St Aubin as part of the investigation.

Officers also stopped vehicles in August and September last year where supplies of cannabis and cocaine were found.

Mobile phones recovered from inside the second car contained text messages offering drugs for sale, including "Rugby World Cup deals",

"shop open" and "deliveries 24/7 wherever you are".

Detective Inspector Adam Guttridge, from the Kingston Borough CID, said: "This group have been active in the area of Kingston for some time. The negative impact that drug dealers have on an area cannot be underestimated. I'm pleased that these men have now been imprisoned and will no longer be selling their drugs on the streets of Kingston."

Sir Bernard beefs up city's thin blue line in move to reassure Londoners

BY JACK DIXON

jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

IT will be remembered as the week the Met got tough on terror. A fleet of new super soldiers unveiled, armed to the teeth and ready to take on the hate-filled attackers that threaten our most deeply-held values.

But was this a valiant rallying cry? A demonstration of defiance against those that plot against us? Or a troubling sign that London is on the run?

It reads like an inventory list primed for the apocalypse. Six hundred marksmen on standby, clad in Kevlar body armour. Sniper rifles, submachine guns and tasers glued to their 'Robocop' uniforms.

Hydraulic battering rams, ballistic shields and disc cutters will also be at the disposal of the new counter-terrorist specialist firearms officers (CTSFOs) when required for breaking down doors.

The squad of Met protectors have been specially trained to respond like lightning to the first sniff of a terror attack like the ones that have shaken Germany, France and Belgium in recent months.

Revealing the true face of modern policing, the super cops will also be capable of abseiling down buildings, cutting across the Thames on rapid-response boats and hurtling through the busy streets of London on high-speed BMW motorcycles.

The heavily orchestrated media event organised on Wednesday to unveil the Met's new squadron was intended to reassure Londoners in the wake of the shocking incidents in Europe. But it proved also to be a sickening reminder of our city's underlying vulnerability.

Announcing the launch of Operation Hercules last week, Met Commissioner Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe said: "Anyone who's been following events in Europe over the past few weeks will understand why we want to show our determination to protect the public. We are deadly serious about the protection that we are offering the people of London and we will never be com-

placent.

"That's why I'm increasing the visibility and the number of armed officers on London's streets, and demonstrating some of the range of tactics we already have to protect the public from all manner of threats. I want the public to know that we have substantial resources and a range of tactics that we can call on to protect them."

The fleet of extra cops brings the total number of armed officers operating on the streets of London to 2,800 – and teams will be sent to patrol areas of the capital never before guarded by specialist anti-terror teams.

It is expected that busy shopping centres, such as Oxford Street and the Westfield superstores, will be monitored by CTSFOs over the summer, with railway stations also on standby for a terror attack.

Sir Bernard was lampooned last week for reasserting the Met's advice that Londoners should "run, if you can" in the event of a major incident.

But he affirmed that the force's new "heroes" would be heading in the opposite direction, "towards the danger".

He also stressed that, despite their military-style protective uniforms and cloth-covered faces, the CTSFOs should still be approached like ordinary bobbies.

"Despite the fact they are carrying guns they are still police officers and I want the public to approach and talk to them."

"They are out on our streets to reassure and help the public," he added.

But within hours of their unveiling last week the Met's new cops were placed on red alert. With the dust barely settled on Sir Bernard's vitriolic press briefing, the force found itself responding to a brutal stabbing in Russell Square.

An American woman, 64-year-old Darlene Horton, died on the street, while five others were treated in hospital with minor injuries.

While the incident was not thought to be connected to terrorist plotters, it served as a grim reminder of the scale of the challenge that awaits London's super cop squads.



Armed police on patrol at St Pancras railway station last week. The Met's new elite unit, armed with pistols and semi-automatic rifles, was on the streets after being unveiled by Met chiefs
Picture: SWNS

Message from top policeman

Met Commissioner Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe's message to Londoners

"ANYONE who's been following events in Europe over the past few weeks will understand why we want to show our determination to protect the public. We are deadly serious about the protection that we are offering the people of London and we will never be complacent."

"That's why I'm increasing the visibility and the number of armed officers on London's streets, and demonstrating some of the range of tactics we already have to protect the public from all manner of threats."

"I want the public to know that we have substantial resources and a range of tactics that we can call on to protect them."

"The reality of having to deal with armed and deadly attackers is that you need firearms officers who will use force to stop those attackers in their aim. Our firearms officers are the ones who will run towards the danger. They are our heroes."

"Despite the fact they are carrying guns they are still police officers and I want the public to approach and talk to them, they are out on our streets to reassure and help the public."

"Equally important in how we protect our capital is the relationship that our mainly unarmed officers have built with communities over many years. Our communities are a vital source of information and if you have fears or concerns then we want to know."



Advice from Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe

Run if you can: that's police advice if you're caught up in terrorist attack

WHILE the Met was at pains to point out the great lengths it has gone to in order to equip its new fighting force with the most hi-tech weaponry, its message to Londoners who find themselves caught up in a terror attack was far simpler: "Run, if you can".

The threat level nationally is at 'severe', meaning a terrorist incident is highly likely to hit the streets of London.

But while Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe has promised that the new Met super cops will be running "towards the danger",

members of the public have been given the sage advice to get away as fast as possible.

Official guidance issued in a short film by the National Counter Terrorism Policing unit outlines that running away should be the first priority for Londoners encountering a would-be terrorist plotter.

In the nightmare scenario that there is no escape, genius safety strategists recommend "hiding" – and then, when the opportunity arises, "telling the police".

Mark Rowley, the Met's



An armed policeman in Horse Guards Parade last week. Above: the Met's new squad of 600 CTSFOs were unveiled to the public last week

Assistant Commissioner and National Counter Terrorism Policing lead, said: "The intention of the film is not to unnecessarily scare the public but to ensure that they know what steps to take in the unlikely event of being involved in a firearms or weapons attack."

"We know that from case studies and real-life testimony based on the experiences of people who have survived attacks that the advice given in the film, which has already been used in industry training sessions, has saved lives."

Capital nights



Olympic sums

It is of course very reassuring to hear that the BBC has sent a team of 455 presenters, producers and technicians to Rio to capture the efforts of the 366 athletes in Team GB.

One would not want to miss any of the action because the publicly-funded BBC had only sent one man and his cat.

It is also reassuring to learn that the BBC sending the equivalent of an entire army battalion to the exotic shores of sun-drenched Brazil for a couple of weeks apparently represents a cost-cutting exercise.

Barbara Slater, the BBC's £206,800-a-year director of sport, says Battalion BBC will be expected to deliver "roughly the same volume of output as London 2012" but with 40 per cent less people.

That's good because our man in travel did a quick calculation and he estimates that the cost of providing flights, hotels, food and pay for 455 could cost more than £2.5 million. But we're pretty sure he's got his sums wrong, as the BBC is anything but spendthrift.



Strictly's Chloe Hewitt

Strictly young

Strictly Come Dancing has signed up its youngest professional dancer for when the show returns this autumn. Twenty-year-old Chloe Hewitt was aged eight when Strictly began airing in 2004.

She will be joined in the professional line-up by her dance partner AJ Pritchard, with whom she appeared on Britain's Got Talent in 2013. Chloe, who was born in Chester, took up dancing lessons after watching Strictly as a child. Last year she and Pritchard, 21, were crowned British Open Youth Latin Champions and also European Youth Latin Champions. Over their nine-year competitive career they have been the National Youth Latin Champions for three years in a row, from 2012 to 2014.

Oscar winning director Sir Ridley Scott is looking for wordsmiths with the write stuff to become the next big stars of Hollywood.

Sir Ridley has launched a London-wide search to find the top writing talent who want to break into the movies.

The acclaimed director of films including *The Alien*, *Gladiator* and *The Martian* is hoping that at least one blockbuster movie will come from his Launch Pad Manuscript Competition, and make rich stars of those with the right words.

"In an exclusive partnership with Ridley Scott's company Scott Free, Energy Entertainment and publisher Inkshares, the Launch Pad Manuscript Competition is here to bridge the world of literary books, novels and manuscripts with Hollywood's biggest agents, managers, executives, producers and publishers," said a spokesman for Sir Ridley.

"The goal of this competition is to help authors get their work in the hands of entertainment industry and publishing world titans, sign with top tier agencies and management companies, and to help you launch your professional writing career.

"Is your book or manuscript the next Oscar-nominated adaptation? Do you have the next breakout YA novel? The Launch Pad Manuscript Competition will position your work to become the next hit film or television adaptation while also getting your book published and in the hands of readers around the globe and on bookstore shelves.

"With Ridley Scott's company Scott Free onboard to option at least one of our finalists, Energy Entertainment onboard to sign at least one of our finalists, and Inkshares onboard to publish a minimum of three of our finalists and release them digitally and physically in bookstores across the world, we're giving you the opportunity to literally write your own



Looking for new writing talent - Ridley Scott

ticket."

Our book, an unpublished outrageous satire on the music business called *Rock Bottom* will be winging itself to Ridley as we leg it down to Jack Barclay to order a Roller. Anyone else who fancies themselves as the next Scott Fitzgerald should send 50 pages of their great idea. All details at tblaunchpad.com

"When it comes to partners, there are few you'd want more than Ridley Scott's Scott Free. With a track record of blockbusters spanning decades, and more than 40 Oscar, 51 BAFTA, 23 Golden Globe and 102 Emmy nominations, you know you're in good hands," runs the publicity blurb.

"But looking beyond the resume, the awards, and the prestige, Scott Free has consistently set itself apart as a company always ahead of the curve and willing to take chances on new writers, new ideas and new platforms. One prime example of that is none other than the originally self

published author of *The Martian* - Andy Weir."

Weir's book became the huge movie hit of last year which wound up receiving seven Oscar nominations.

Meanwhile, another top name is also hunting for new London writers.

Idris Elba's Green Door Pictures are partnering Lionsgate to launch the Write To Green Light competition, designed to discover writers for TV drama.

The winners receive a paid option with Green Door Pictures and Lionsgate, with a view to developing the series for production. Submissions are now open at projectgreenlight.com

Zygi Kamasa, CEO of Lionsgate, said: "There is a huge shortage of undiscovered television writing talent. Where's the *Mad Men* in the UK? Where is our really great writing talent?"

It could be you. See you at Jack Barclay's.



Pokemon crazy

First it took over our video games consoles, then it invaded our television sets and film screens before popping up on our mobile phones - but the cult of Pokemon shows no signs of slowing down. The latest marketing play for the franchise is an all-out audio experience, bringing the adventure to life through sound.

Yes, *Pokemon: Symphonic Evolutions* lands in London later this year and is certain to trigger an avalanche of fans old and new at the Hammersmith Apollo.

Obsessives have grown to love the humorous little tunes that soundtrack the game as players do battle with beasts of every shape and size.

But what was once considered a quirk of the Pokemon universe will now take centre stage, as the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra gives the songs the full treatment. A series of orchestral reworkings of the game's soundtrack feature in

Symphonic Evolutions, as in-play footage is beamed onto the big screen.

The game has re-emerged as a pop culture phenomenon since the franchise's latest incarnation, *Pokemon Go*, was released in the UK.

The show comes to Hammersmith in December as part of a European tour spanning most of 2016. For fans, it will be another delirious and unexpected delight. While the puzzled sceptics are once again left questioning: will we ever be from the cult of Pokemon?

We imagine that relations between the BBC's *Antiques Roadshow* and its Radio 4 statistics programme *More Or Less* are none too wonderful since the latter debunked the whole point of Fiona Bruce's flagship in a recent investigation.

More Or Less, presented by Tim Harford, describes itself as "your ever-cheerful guide to the numbers around us", but there must have been little cheer among Fiona's team when the programme recently announced it was planning to "look sceptically at evaluations from *Antiques Roadshow*".

Inter-department criticism is not generally encouraged at the BBC, which gets enough brickbats from elsewhere, so the *Roadshow* production team must have been knocked out with delight when Harford's producer Charlotte McDonald presented a report exposing that the fabulous prices of many of the antiques featured are merely



Not amused - Fiona Bruce

the consequence of inflation.

For instance, a candlestick bought by an ancestor in 1850 for £10 may be valued now at £1,200, but that's only because of inflation averaged at 2.9 per cent per year.

More Or Less conducted a study of items presented to the antiques experts in eight recent

episodes of the top-rated BBC1 programme and, announced Ms McDonald, "of the 30 or so items where we had enough information, about one in six were given a value today which is probably equal or less than the amount it was bought for."

She added, somewhat ruinously: "Plus, if you take into account auctioneers' fees, it means that when an expert says how much an item might fetch at auction and the crowd goes 'Oo-oo', it might not be as impressive as it sounds".

Interestingly, for a numbers show, the audience figures for *More Or Less* are not obviously available, but we are prepared to bet that the Sunday night radio programme does not attract anything like the 4.2 million people who regularly watch *Antiques Roadshow* and we suspect that memos may be flying within Broadcasting House, with Goliath demanding that David backs off or else risks ruining the entire appeal of La Bruce's programme.

Apart from her frocks, that is.

Capital nights

It had to happen, E4 is shortly launching a new “snog a star” show in which ordinary oiks will get the chance to pull a celebrity – and get married. Pushing the celebrity obsession to a new limit, E4 is to put a bunch of un-partnered celebs up for grabs to all comers.

Do you fancy your chances with reality TV personality Charlotte Crosby? Reckon you’ve got what it takes to charm The Hills star Stephanie Pratt, actor Tyger Drew-Honey, You Tube’s Jack Jones, TOWIE’s Joey Essex or Paisley from Tat-too Fixers?

Then you are just what the producers of Celebs Go Dating are looking for.

“Our six lovelorn celebrities will be on the market and off the shelf, as they desperately seek a soulmate in this new E4 dating show which will follow the nightly dates of some of our lonely stars as they try to find a non-celebrity love match,” said a spokesman.

“After failing to find love in their celebrity circles, our stars will be matched and date ordinary people in the hope that they will have more success in matters of the heart. The ultimate goal is that these talented bachelors and bachelorettes find a true love at the end of three weeks.”

But be warned, these dates won’t be romantic couplings away out of the public eye. As voyeurism is clearly the whole point of the show, punters who get to go on it will be expected to snog and smooch and seduce with the cameras right in their face.

“Cameras will capture all the action, making sure that any outrageous flirting awkward silences, lover’s tiffs and first kisses are caught on camera for viewers to see,” said the spokesman.

“There will be pre, during and post chemistry analysis of the date by the date-making team, dating agency owner Eden Blackman and matchmaker Nadia Essex, as well as the viewers at home.

“The dates will be followed from start to finish, from making sure outfits are on point, last minute blind date nerves, through to postdate reactions and revelations. It’s a once in a life opportunity to be wined and dined by some of the UK’s hottest, single celebs.”



Charlotte Crosby



Tyger Drew-Honey

Lovely.

The series is being made by Lime Pictures, producers of Hollyoaks and TOWIE – and will air nightly over three weeks soon.

“If there’s one thing we can’t bear to see at E4, it’s a celebrity who’s unlucky in love. That’s why we’ve created our own celebrity dating agency, whose sole aim is to find true romance for famous singletons. Celebs Go Dating will find real people and match them up with famous faces, all in the name of love,” said the spokesman, using the word “love” to mean “great ratings”.

Viewers who take a shine to the celebrities can apply to take part before the show starts by emailing dating@limepictures.com but will only get selected for a date night if the experts think they have a real chance of being compatible.

So how do you up your chances of getting selected? We asked the producer of a top reality show what the judges will be looking for and here’s her tips for a winning application:

- Be sexy and include a sexy photo.
- Preferably be the son or daughter of somebody rich or famous.
- Be smart, articulate and streetwise.
- Indicate that you’re probably ‘up for it’.
- Include any details about yourself, the more bizarre the better, which can then be used to generate sensationalised tabloid publicity.
- Have a good sob story.

gigguide

Compiled by Jack Dixon



Toy

The Shacklewell Arms, Shoreditch
Wednesday August 10

Tousle-haired rockers who ply their trade in spectral psychedelia of the kind made famous by The Horrors and Tame Impala. Poised for new material after releasing a dub rework of their 2013 album Join the Dots and collaborating with Bat For Lashes’ Natasha Khan on her Sexwitch project last year.

Roisin Murphy

The Globe Theatre, Bankside
Monday August 15



Acclaimed singer set to take over the Globe for its first ever contemporary live music performance as part of the venue’s Wonder Women series. Formerly one half of electronic duo Moloko, Murphy has had critics gushing with her recent solo work. And with this special show, preceded by a DJ set from Wonder Women curator Lauren Laverne, she celebrates the release of her fourth record, Take Her Up To Monto.



Edward Sharpe and the Magnetic Zeros

Islington Assembly Hall, Islington
Monday August 15

Indie pop darlings who crafted a sleeper hit with Home in 2009 but have struggled to ascend the charts since the departure of charismatic vocalist Jade Castrinos. Frontman Alex Embert still leads a band of 10 musicians for a series of big, bold and brassy sing-alongs cut from the Los Angeles landscape where the group was formed.

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HOW often is the beleaguered ‘other half’ employed by the working stand-up as the butt of all jokes? It’s a minor miracle that any marriage can survive when one of its pillars lives a tightrope life, absorbing the mundane realities of domesticity only for the finer points to be regurgitated on stage later that evening. Perhaps the trick to a long-lasting union is for both husband and wife to dish the dirt on each other. And if you’re really feeling confident, try doing it on the same stage, on the same night.

Though you won’t find it in any advice manual or counsellor’s notes, such is the successful approach of Nick Offerman and Megan Mullally.

The couple have been at loggerheads on screen in the past, most famously as the warring ex-lovers Ron Swanson and ‘Tammy 2’ in the riotous US comedy series Parks & Recreation. But now they’re serving up their marital recriminations for all to see.

Teaming up for Summer of 69: No Apostrophe, the pair expose the salacious details of their fiery union in a saucy set featuring laugh-along music and a great deal of heavy petting.

Mullally, most famous for her role as the clawing gold-digger Karen in Will & Grace, is the proud owner of two Emmy Awards and four Screen Actors Guild gongs, while hubby Offerman has a pair of Critics’ Choice awards to his name – so don’t expect a bawdy romp without results.

Summer of 69: No Apostrophe comes to the Eventim Apollo in Hammersmith on September 3.



Nick Offerman and Megan Mullally



The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge were enormously popular in their last official visit to Canada in 2011.

A wobble in Canada? Send in the K-Team

THE Queen is sending in "The K-Team" in a bid to head off growing moves for the monarchy to be toppled in Canada. The announcement that the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge are to tour Canada in the autumn comes after a succession of polls have indicated that many Canadians no longer want to have a king or queen as their head of state.

A 2010 poll found that nearly half of Canadians, 48 per cent, considered the monarchy to be "a relic of our colonial past that has no place in Canada today". The poll also found that 44 per cent of Canadians wanted a referendum to decide whether Canada should keep the monarchy.

A 2011 poll found a decline in support for republicanism, but still 33 per cent were in favour of abolishing the monarchy. When asked what words they would use to describe an upcoming Royal visit, 44 per cent said "indifference".

A 2013 poll, taken immediately after the birth of Prince George, found that the number of anti-royals had risen again, with 37 per cent of Canadians in favour of abolishing the monarchy.

A 2015 poll, taken immediately after the birth of Princess Charlotte, found that the figure had risen again, with 39 per cent favouring "abolishing the monarchy upon the death of the Queen", 54 per cent opposing Prince Charles succeeding his mother and 73 per cent agreeing that "the Head of State of Canada should be Canadian-born and live in Canada".

Oo-err, what's a monarch to do?

Answer: Send in The K-Team, because 'K', Kate, Catherine Duchess of Cambridge is massively popular with the Canadian media and a trip by her and her just-as-liked husband will dominate the news agenda and thus produce a huge promotion for the monarchy.

When the royal last visited Canada in 2011, an enormous media contingent of 1,500 journalists were accredited to cover the trip – 500 more than when The Queen visited in 2010.

Although that trip produced a brief red-faced moment for the Duchess when prairie winds at Calgary Airport hiked up her dress, giving her a "Marilyn Moment" that Canadians are unlikely to ever forget, the visit was a huge success with enormous crowds turning out everywhere the then newly-wed royals went.

This time around the media frenzy to follow Kate and William is expected to be even greater – especially, as is much speculated, Catherine decides to take their children with them.

The Duke and Duchess will visit British Columbia and Yukon and Canadian leaders are already likening the trip to the magnitude of the Olympics in terms of the importance of fame by association with the pin-up royals.

"Like the Olympics, the Women's World Cup, Expo 86 and other international events, the royal tour will focus global attention on us and showcase everything British Columbians take pride in, from our unmatched natural beauty to our thriving, diverse communities," said British Columbia Premier Christy Clark.

The next big thing in outdoor activity

HAVE you got the Prince George Swing yet? No? Call yourself a parent, what are you like?

No madam, it's not a comely saunter; it's the very latest playground accessory, a hanging seat attached by two ropes to an overhanging tree, and it has only been around for at least three thousand years – an ornament in the Heraklion Museum in Crete of a woman sitting on a swing dates from 1450 BC.

Despite the well-documented fact that almost every child who has ever lived has gleefully swung on one, the swing has apparently just been discovered as the new family fashion must-have due to, you guessed it, the Prince George Effect.

Following the release of photographs to mark the third birthday of the little throne heir standing on a swing into which the names of his folks had been carved, young parents up and down the land have been pestering the Canterbury-based Oak & Rope Company for their own personalised version of the "latest" in garden chic.

According to gushing reports, the royal swing is made from oak taken from the Duchy of Cornwall's own forests and was a wedding present for William and Kate from Prince Charles, who is now said to have become almost profligate in his fondness for swings by gifting two more for their Norfolk home, carved with the names of their children.

"Sources at the company said they had taken double the number of usual swing orders over the course of the day, after the photographs were published," reported The Telegraph.

"Jeanette Nieman, the co-founder of The Oak and Rope Company, said: 'We never share details of our customers' commissions but we are very proud to see that it is

a centre point of their lives in Norfolk."

Apparently the William & Kate swing costs £345, the price including the carving of up to 25 letters per side. Smaller swings are available from £175.

Alternatively, my mate down at Travis Perkins will probably knock you off a piece of four by two for a couple of quid.

Next week: Prince George discovers Pooh Sticks, planet starts stampede for twigs.



Prince George enjoying a swing in the garden

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Talk of the town

FORMER Girls Aloud starlet, Sarah Harding, will make her theatrical debut next month, as she joins the cast of *Ghost - The Musical* at the New Wimbledon Theatre.

The singer will play the role of Molly, made famous by Demi Moore in the 1990 film, in the stage production, which will go on to tour the UK following its opening in Wimbledon on September 1.

Harding will play opposite Andy Moss, best known for starring as Rhys Ashworth in Channel 4's *Hollyoaks*.

Walking back to their apartment late one night a tragic encounter sees Molly's partner Sam murdered, leaving his girlfriend alone, in despair and utterly lost. But with the help of a phoney storefront psychic Sam, trapped between this world and the next, tries to communicate with Molly in the hope of saving her from grave danger.

The double Academy Award winning movie was a huge success story, both critically and at the box office, where it was the highest grossing film in the year of its release. It starred the late Patrick Swayze, Demi Moore, Tony Goldwyn and Whoopi Goldberg and was directed by Jerry Zucker. Bruce Joel Rubin's script won the Oscar for Best Original Screenplay and Whoopi Goldberg won the Oscar for Best Actress in a Supporting Role. The film's most iconic and moving scene was famously

performed to The Righteous Brother's *Unchained Melody*, which also features in the musical version.

For more than ten years Sarah Harding was part of one of the most successful pop acts in UK history, *Girls Aloud*.

With 20 consecutive Top Ten singles, including four number 1s, two number 1 albums and six platinum albums in the UK, *Girls Aloud* received five Brit Award Nominations and became the first girl group since the Spice Girls to achieve six consecutive top three singles. Sarah's acting credits include, *Bad Day*, *Freefall*, *Run For Your Wife*, *Coronation Street* and *St Trinians 2: The Legend of Fritton's Gold*.

Harding said: "I'm absolutely delighted to be making my theatre debut in *Ghost - The Musical*. The film is one of my all-time favourites, so to get the opportunity to play 'Molly' in Bill Kenwright's new production is a huge honour for me and I can't wait to get started!"

Ghost the musical opens at the New Wimbledon Theatre on September 1. If you would like any further information you can visit the website <http://m.atgtickets.com/shows/ghost-the-musical-2016/new-wimbledon-theatre/>

**Sarah Harding as Molly and
Andy Moss as Sam in
*Ghost - The Musical***



A little too much exposure

Exposure The Musical**

YOU always take a bit of risk when you head to the theatre to see something new, but that is part of the appeal.

Andrew Lloyd Webber has recently purchased the St James Theatre specifically to showcase fresh writing and one of its first offerings was *Exposure the Musical*, writes **Nicky Sweetland**.

In a unique partnership with Getty Images, the musical about celebrity culture and the excesses of modern society promised to be a stage spectacular and Timothy Bird's set design more than lived up to expectations. Sadly, that is where the two stars in this review were earned, as the rest of the production was so poor I struggled to find any other positives.

Exposure centres on Jimmy, a young photographer who aspires to follow in his father's footsteps. After capturing images of poverty and deprivation all over the world, he is tempted by the promise of the spoils which accompany the

often sinful lives of the famous.

The idea that Jimmy's father dies on the day of his birth is utterly farcical and, from that point onwards, the book consists of a series of poorly strung together clichés which left me pitying the cast.

Although, there are a few moments, where melodies are used to punctuate the action, in general the music is monotonous and repetitive, with corny lyrics and no real depth.

Natalie Anderson and Niamh Perry make a brave attempt at portraying their almost cartoon-like characters, but are overshadowed by the abysmal dialogue and lack of direction.

Lindon Barr's choreography shows promise and gives the piece a bit of energy, but is often shoehorned into the plot in a style that generally feels inappropriate.

I attended the show at its second official performance and the number of bodies on stage outnumbered those in the audience, which is a sad testament to the quality of the production.

Talk of the town

A BRAND new production of the classic musical **42nd STREET** is set to tap its way back onto the London stage next year.

The dazzling and romantic homage to the world of musical theatre – arrives at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane in March 2017 and brings with it an all-singing, high-kicking cast of over 50 and some of the greatest songs in musical history, ready to explode on to the West End's biggest stage.

42nd STREET is the song and dance, American dream fable of Broadway and includes some of the greatest songs ever written, such as 'We're In The Money', 'Lullaby of Broadway', 'Shuffle Off To Buffalo', 'Dames', 'I Only Have Eyes For You', and '42nd Street'.

Young Peggy Sawyer is fresh off the bus from small-town America and just another face in the chorus line on Broadway's newest show. But when the leading lady gets injured, Peggy might just have the shot at stardom she's always dreamed of...

42nd STREET has played to great global acclaim for almost 40 years. The new West End production will be directed by the show's author Mark Bramble (whose other hit shows include *Barnum*, *Treasure Island*, *The Three Musketeers*, *The Grand Tour*), and director of many award-winning previous productions of **42nd STREET** around the world.

Mark Bramble said: "The original production had the look of a Warner Brothers black and white film. This



time we're doing an MGM Technicolor version of with additional songs and dances. The theme of the show speaks louder today than ever before: follow your bliss and with

talent and hard work dreams can come true.

"I'm delighted that Linnit/Grade are bringing our song and dance extravaganza to the magnificent The-

atre Royal Drury Lane."

42nd STREET will run at the Theatre Royal Drury Lane from March 20 March to August 5.

www.42ndstreetmusical.co.uk

SIMON Blow has an impressive aristocratic pedigree, as the great nephew of the famous socialite Stephen Tennant (known as 'the Brightest of the Bright Young Things') and grandson of architect Detmar Blow.

His new play, entitled *The Past is a Tattooed Sailor* gives a unique insight into the British upper classes, their family relationships and the often complicated issue of inheritance, *writes Nicky Sweetland*.

The play, which will run at the Old Red Lion, Islington next month, is a semi-biopic, featuring the playwright as one of the central characters - a young man called Joshua who is displaced from his privileged background.

I chatted to Simon during the rehearsal period of the new production and he told me some of the history behind the piece.

He said: "The play originated because I was so close to my uncle and I decided to write this play about our relationship."

Joshua meets Damien, a lower middle class lad at a nightclub and romance ensues. The relationship is frowned upon by everyone, except his uncle, an eccentric recluse, who is living in a Manor House by the banks of the River Avon. He lives mostly in his bed with memories of youth.

The upper class family owed much of its wealth to their ancestor Charles Tennant, who discovered chemical bleach and founded an industrial dynasty. The Tennants became a powerful force within British society, with plenty of available wealth for the subsequent offspring.

Seen as a waster by much of his family, Stephen Tennant was widely considered to be the model for Cedric Hampton in Nancy Mitford's novel *Love in a Cold Climate* and one of the inspirations for Lord Sebastian Flyte in Evelyn Waugh's *Brideshead Revisited*. The name of Simon Blow's play refers to Tennant's penchant for servicemen.

"My great uncle was very keen on sailors with tattoos and soldiers too and his dream place was Marseille," Simon said.

"The point is that nothing really happened to him in his life, although he became a legend. He never pulled off the things he wanted to do, the novels he wanted to write. He didn't really know in which area he wanted to be famous and so he lived in a dream, so he didn't have to face what was happening. He, sort of, hid."

The Past is a Tattooed Sailor will run at the Old Red Lion in Islington to August 28. oldredliontheatre.co.uk

Potter maniacs missing out!

THOUSANDS of Harry Potter fans were left disappointed, once again, as the latest release of tickets for the stage adaptation sold out this week.

Harry Potter and the Cursed Child officially opened last week and has been hailed a five-star success virtually across the board by critics, with the epic stage production wowing the lucky few, who have been able to attend.

A further 250,000 tickets were released on Thursday morning, with would-be theatregoers given the chance to join an online queuing system to gain the coveted dockets. The ticketing sites immediately crashed, with an estimated half a million 'Potterheads' attempting to gain access to the magical world.

This latest disappointment follows the release of the book last

week. Many fans of the magical saga were surprised to find that the hardback was not the eighth novel in the series but, in fact, just a rehearsal script of the plays.

Harry Potter and the Cursed Child production is set 19 years after the last instalment (Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows) and follows the eponymous hero as he struggles with adult life.

Performed as two plays, the West End production is now sold out until December 2017.

Producers have urged fans to keep checking the website, for returns. There is also a weekly online lottery for tickets on Fridays, which gives participants the chance to win top price tickets for the following week's performances at a greatly reduced rate.

Visit the website harrypottertheplay.com



Not such a wizard time - a grown-up Harry Potter having trouble with his son
Photo by Manuel Harlan

Wine&dine

'It's not all rosy' says Ping



Ping Coombes the 2014 winner of Masterchef is promoting her new family recipe book

I'm flying to Madrid tomorrow and I have a million and one things to do," Ping Coombes whispers down the phone, giggling at her hectic schedule.

"And I've just moved house so I am surrounded by boxes. It's madness."

But for the MasterChef champion - who has spent the past two years since winning the 2014 series in somewhat of a whirlwind - packing up a few belongings shouldn't break a sweat.

Coombes, now in her mid-30s, has gone on to "spread the word" as global ambassador for her native Malaysian cuisine; cooked up a storm up at food festivals around the world, and landed her debut cookery book, the eye-poppingly bright and brilliant Malaysia: Recipes From A Family Kitchen.

"No one really tells you what's going to happen, because everything is so hush-hush," she says of her crowning moment on the hit

BBC cooking show.

"The next day, I had interviews back-to-back and since then, I haven't stopped.

"But I'm very lucky," she quickly adds. "It just shows how accepting the British are of new cuisines."

Malaysian food - a fusion of Chinese, Malay and Indian tastes - has long been a hidden jewel of South-East Asian cuisine, and growing up in Malaysia's vibrant city of Ipoh, Coombes distinctly recalls a world that revolved around shedloads of the stuff.

"We had big gatherings," she recalls, mimicking the mealtime call 'Sek fan la!' - meaning 'Come and eat!'

"As children, we would always sit down with my mum and dad to eat as a family, and that's been ingrained in me."

And having dedicated her book to her family (flip open the first page and a passage beneath a childhood photo of Coombes and her mother reads: 'Food has the power to create and evoke memories'), it's a tradition she's keen to uphold.

"Even though my husband Andrew and I may not eat with my daughter Alexa, because she

eats early, we'll always sit with her to enjoy the meal together, so that she understands meal-times.

"We don't have things like iPads at the table, because we want her to enjoy the food as a family."

Yet while she remains heavily inspired by her upbringing, Coombes claims she was eager to adapt her collection of 100 recipes - including such delights as Chilli Crab and Caramel Pork Belly - to fit in with life in the UK.

"I simplify a lot of the recipes but still retain the flavour," she says, reeling off the major supermarkets that now stock shelves of Malaysian products.

"People want to try a foreign cuisine, but to cook it, it needs to be simple and delicious. That's the inspiration behind it; my travels, my childhood, and when I moved to the UK for university 17 years ago. It's what I have developed in my kitchen and my mum's kitchen."

Coombes still hosts supper clubs and pop-ups heads up her popular online hub Ping's Pantry.

"I'm doing more private cooking classes and con-

sulting (she's consultant chef for Chi Kitchen in Birmingham), and eventually we want to open our own restaurant," she enthuses. "It's good to be busy. I'm not complaining!"

Does she ever struggle spinning so many plates, though?

"We cook most of our food from scratch, but I do have cheat ingredients in my fridge," she confesses of her home life.

"It's impossible to expect people with a busy lifestyle to do everything; I want people to be a bit more realistic."

Her Instagram account, she says, gives people a sense of "what I do and what my everyday life is".

"I am keen to show a chef's life isn't a rosy as people think."

"Sometimes I can have microwavable rice, and it's absolutely fine!"

MARK HIX'S RECIPE OF THE WEEK



Blueberry relish

Serves 10-12

This is a great alternative to the usual chutney accompaniments to go with hard, soft or blue cheeses.

Ingredients

450g blueberries
450g caster sugar
Juice of 2 lemons
3 gelatine leaves (9g)

Method

Place the blueberries and sugar in a large heavy-bottomed saucepan. Gently bring to the boil, stirring continuously, and simmer on a medium heat for 30 minutes. Add the lemon juice and simmer for a further 15 minutes until it's really thick. Skim with a ladle as it's cooking to remove and discard any scum that rises to the surface.

Simmer for 1 hour, then pass through a fine-meshed sieve. Meanwhile soak the gelatine leaves in cold water, then squeeze them out and stir into the hot mixture until dissolved. Pour into a mould and leave to set in a cool place.



Great with cheese - blueberry relish

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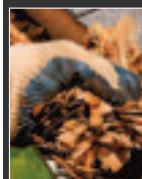
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Public Notices

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1) (WATERFORD ROAD)

TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

1. The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate crane operations to be carried out in the above named road, it intends to make an Order the effect of which would prohibit vehicular traffic in a section of the above named road.
2. Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, no person shall cause any vehicle to proceed, stop, wait, load or unload in the southbound section of Waterford Road between its junctions with King's Road and No. 77 Waterford Road.
3. An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would be in place via Moore Park Road, Britannia Road and King Road.
4. Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.
5. The Order would come into operation on the 22nd August 2016 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.
6. Works would be expected to commence on Monday 22nd August 2016 and remain in place until Bank Holiday (30/08/2016) until Thursday 1st September 2016. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 2nd day of August 2016

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle
Chief Transport Planner
Transport and Highways

Transport for London Notice

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 THE A201 GLA ROAD (FARRINGDON STREET, CITY OF LONDON) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF STOPPING) ORDER 2016

1. Transport for London hereby gives notice that it intends to make the above named Traffic Order under section 14(1), (5), (7) and 15(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and is satisfied that these works will last in excess of 18 months for the purpose specified in paragraph 2. The effect of the Order is summarised in paragraph 3.
2. The purpose of the Order is to enable building works to take place at Plumtree Court and Fleet Buildings, Farringdon Street.
3. The effect of the Order will be to prohibit any vehicle from stopping at the western kerb-line of A201 Farringdon Street between its junctions with Stonecutter Street and Plumtree Court.
The Order will be effective at certain times from 12.01 AM on the 1st September 2016 until the works have been completed. The prohibition will apply only during such times and to such extent as shall from time to time be indicated by traffic signs.
4. The prohibition will not apply in respect of:
 - (1) any vehicle being used for the purposes of those works or for fire brigade, ambulance or police purposes;
 - (2) anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform or a person authorised by Transport for London.
5. The Order will be revoked upon completion of these works.

Dated this 9th day of August 2016

Mark Whitaker
Head of Operations
Road Space Management - Operations,
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Palestra, 197 Blackfriars Road, London, SE1 8NJ

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Public Notices

LICENSING ACT 2003 NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PREMISES LICENCE

NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT **London and Strategic Estates Ltd** has applied to Hammersmith & Fulham Borough Council on 3rd August 2016 for the grant of a premises licence to use the premises at **18 Hammersmith Broadway, London, W6 7AB** for the Sale of Alcohol on Monday to Saturday 10.00 to 00.00 and Sunday 12.00 to 23.00, as more particularly set out in the application.

Any person who wishes to make a representation in relation to this application must give notice in writing to: **FAO: London Borough Hammersmith & Fulham Licensing Team, PO Box 66532, London, W6 9GJ** to be received by no later than 31st August 2016 stating the grounds for making said representation.

A record of the application can be inspected on the Council's website www.lbf.gov.uk, or at the above address during office hours.

It is an offence, under section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003, to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in or in connection with an application for a premises licence and the maximum fine on being convicted of such an offence is £5,000.

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Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the above named, late of FLAT 19, MALCOLMSON HOUSE, LONDON SW1V 3RP, who died on 27/07/2016, are required to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned on or before 10/10/2016, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

Christine Canning, The London Gazette (2173), PO Box 3584, Norwich NR7 7WD

RICHARD LEONARD WARR

(Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the above named, late of 36 Park Town, Oxford OX2 6SU and 38 Bramerton Street, London SW6 5LA, who died on 23/07/2015, are required to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned on or before 19/10/2016, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

Hunters (Incorporating May, May & Merrimans), 9 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London WC2A 3QN. Ref: MCT.AAS.44076-1

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LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1)

(BURLINGTON ROAD)

TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC

1. The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham hereby gives notice that in order to facilitate carriageway repair works to be carried out in the above named road, it made an Order the effect of which prohibits vehicular traffic in a section of the above named road.
2. Whilst works are in progress, or whilst the authorised traffic signs are displayed, no person shall cause any vehicle to proceed, stop, wait, load or unload in a section of Burlington Road between No. 49 and No. 51 Burlington Road.
3. An alternative route for traffic in article 2 would be in place via New King's Road, Buer Road & Rigault Road.
4. Exemptions would be provided in the Order to permit reasonable access to premises, so far as it is practical without interference with the execution of the said work and for works vehicles, any vehicle being used in connection with police, fire or ambulance purposes and anything done with the permission or at the direction of a police constable in uniform.
5. The Order will come into operation on the 15th August 2016 and would be valid for a maximum period of 18 months or until works are completed, whichever is the sooner.
6. Works are expected to commence on Monday 15th August 2016 and last for 5 days. The dates specified are for guidance and informative purposes only and works may extend outside these dates.

Dated this 2nd day of August 2016

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle
Chief Transport Planner
Transport and Highways

THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM

(PROHIBITION OF STOPPING ON CAB RANKS) (AMENDMENT) (NO. 4) ORDER 2016

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham on 06th July 2016 made the above Order under sections 9 and 10 and 124 of, and Part IV of Schedule 9 to, the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended. The Order will come into force on 19th August 2016 and may continue in force for up to 18 months.
2. The general nature and effect of the Hammersmith and Fulham (Waiting and Loading Restriction)(Consolidation)(Amendment No. 42) Order 2014 will be to prohibit as an experiment any vehicle other than a taxi from stopping between 10pm and 6am on Friday night/Saturday morning and between 10pm and 6am on Saturday night Sunday morning on the areas marked as a taxi rank in:
Margrave Gardens, outside No. 2 1/2 Margrave Gardens;
Ercownald Street, opposite East Acton Underground Station;
Wood Lane, opposite No. 147 Wood Lane.
3. Where it appears necessary for certain purposes, the Head of Transport Policy & Network Management, or any person authorised by them may modify or suspend the orders or any provisions in it, while the orders are in force.
4. A copy of the Orders and of documents giving more detailed particulars of the Orders can be inspected during normal office hours on Mondays to Fridays inclusive from the date on which this notice is published until the order ceases to have effect, at the offices of:
Transportation Policy Group, Transport and Technical Services Department, Town Hall Extension, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 9JU.
5. The Council will be considering in due course whether the provisions of the experimental Orders should be continued in force indefinitely by means of a permanent Order made under section 45, 46, 49 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. Any person may object to the making of the permanent Orders within a period of six months beginning with the day on which the experimental Orders come into force or, if the Orders are varied by another Order or modified pursuant to section 10(2) of the 1984 Act, beginning with the day on which the variation or modification or the latest variation or modification came into force. Any such objection or other representation relating to the Orders must be made in writing and all objections must specify the grounds on which they are made and should be sent to Traffic Orders Team, Transport and Technical Services Department, Town Hall Extension, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 9JU.
6. If any person wishes to question the validity of the Orders or any of the provisions on the grounds that it or they are not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or that any requirement of that Act or of any instrument made under that Act has not been complied with, that person may, within 6 weeks from the date on which the Orders are made, apply for the purpose to the High Court.

Dated 21st day of July 2016

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle
Chief Transport Planner
Transport and Highways

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (PARKING PLACES, ZONE "J") (AMENDMENT No. 6) ORDER 2016

THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (BUS LANE) (CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT No. 6) ORDER 2016

THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (WAITING AND LOADING RESTRICTION) (CONSOLIDATION) AMENDMENT (No. 53) ORDER 2016

THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (LOADING BAY) AMENDMENT (No. 15) ORDER 2016

THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (PARKING PLACES)(Car Club) (AMENDMENT No. 1) ORDER 2016

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham propose to make the above-mentioned Orders under the powers granted by sections 6, 45, 46, 49 and 124 of, and Part IV of Schedule 9 to, the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended.
2. The general effect of the above proposed Hammersmith and Fulham (Parking Places, Zones J)(Amendment No.6) Order 2016 will be to further amend The Hammersmith and Fulham (Parking Places, Zone J) Order 2013 in so far that parking places would be amended and/or introduced and/or revoked in certain lengths of Tunis Road and Stanlake Road.
3. The general effect of the Hammersmith and Fulham (Bus Lane) (Consolidation) (Amendment No. 6) Order 2016 will be to amend the Hammersmith and Fulham (Bus Lane) (Consolidation) Order 2010 so as to :-
a) revoke sections of bus only route which lie on Uxbridge Rd.
b) reduce sections of bus only route which lies on Uxbridge Rd.
4. The general effect of the Hammersmith and Fulham (Waiting and Loading Restriction) (Consolidation) (Amendment No. 53) Order 2016 will be to further amend the Hammersmith and Fulham (Waiting and Loading Restriction) (Consolidation) Order 2009 so that waiting and/or loading restrictions would be amended and/or introduced and/or revoked in certain lengths of Pennard Road, Hopgood Street, Lime Grove, Stanlake Road, Titmuss Street, Tunis Road, Uxbridge Road and Shepherd's Bush Green.
5. The general nature and effect of the Hammersmith and Fulham (Loading Bay) (Consolidation) (Amendment No.15) Traffic Order 2016 will be to amend the Hammersmith and Fulham (Loading Bay) (Consolidation) Traffic Order 2011 so as to introduce and/or revoked loading bays on Hopgood Street, Pennard Road, Uxbridge Road, Frithville Gardens, Lime Grove, Tunis Road and Stanlake Road.
6. The general effect of the Hammersmith and Fulham (Parking Places) (Car Club) (Amendment No. 1) Order 2016, will be to amend the Hammersmith and Fulham (Parking Places) (Car Club) Order 2013 so as to introduce a new car club bay on Pennard Road.
7. The above mentioned orders shall come into operation on **23rd August 2016.**
8. A copy of the proposed Orders, the Councils statement of reasons for proposing to make the Orders and documents giving more detailed particulars of the proposed Orders, can be inspected during normal office hours on Mondays to Fridays inclusive until the end of a period of 6 weeks beginning with the date on which the Orders are made, or as the case may be, the Council decides not to make the Orders.
9. Any person wishing to object to the proposed Orders or make other representations should send a statement in writing to the following address:
Transport and Technical Services Group, Highways and Engineering Division, Environment Department, Town Hall Extension, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 9JU until the expiration of 21 days from the date on which the notice is published.

Dated this 9th day of August 2016

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle
Chief Transport Planner
Transport and Highways

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

Reach Active Ltd trading as Reach Active Ltd of Unit 4, Centrus, Mead Lane, Hertford SG13 7GX is applying for a licence to use Imperial White City, South Campus, Depot Road of Wood Lane W12 7RH as an operating centre for 3 goods vehicles and 0 trailers. Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use of enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representatives must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

Licensing Act 2003

Application for a new Premises Licence

Notice is hereby given that **Evenhold Limited** has applied to the City of Westminster on **02/08/2016** for a new premises licence for **Basement and Ground Floor, 16-18 Upper Tachbrook Street, SW1V 1SH.**

The proposed application is to permit for the sale by retail of alcohol.

Any person who wishes to make a representation in relation to this application must give notice in writing of his/her representation by **30/08/2016** stating the grounds for making said representation to: Licensing Service, 14th Floor, City Hall, 64 Victoria Street, London, SW1E 6QP. The public register where applications are available to be viewed by members of the public can be accessed online by visiting at www.westminster.gov.uk/Licensing and following the link to the public register.

The Licensing Authority must receive representations by the date given above. The Licensing Authority will have regard to any such representation in considering the application. It is an offence, under section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003, to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in or in connection with an application for premises licence and the maximum fine on being convicted of such an offence is £5000.

EXHIBITION LICENCE

NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT **OLYMPIA LICENSING LTD** has applied to the **London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham** for an Annual **EXHIBITION LICENCE** for the premises **OLYMPIA EXHIBITION CENTRE, HAMMERSMITH ROAD, LONDON W14 8UX** on the **4th August**. Anyone wishing to oppose the application must give notice in writing to Hammersmith & Fulham Council, Commercial Services Team, PO 66532, London W8 9GJ. **WITHIN 4 WEEKS OF THE DATE OF APPLICATION specifying the grounds of opposition.** Persons objecting to the grant of a licence will be invited to attend in person at a hearing before the Licensing Panel of the Council.

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Local Planning Applications London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham



PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

I give notice that applications have been made to the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham as follows:

FOR DEVELOPMENT WHICH MAY AFFECT THE CHARACTER OR APPEARANCE OF A CONSERVATION AREA

1 Edith Villas London 2016/02062/FUL
Conversion of the first, second and loft floors from four self contained flats to seven self contained flats.

20 Crondace Road London SW6 4BS 2016/03230/FUL

Erection of a rear roof extension; erection of a rear extension at second floor level over part of the existing back addition; alterations to the roof and to the rear fenestration of the single storey back addition; excavation of the front and rear garden to form lightwells in connection with the enlargement of the existing basement; erection of an external spiral staircase from basement to garden level at the rear of the property.

40A New King's Road London SW6 4ST

2016/03248/FUL
Replacement of existing double glazed windows with new uPVC windows at first floor level, to the front and side elevation.

401 Goldhawk Road London W6 0SA

2016/03363/FUL

Installation of a new dormer window to replace the existing dormer window in the rear roof slope; replacement of the main roof with new roof slates; alterations to the roof of single storey back addition to include the installation of 2no rooflights in the side roof slope; installation of new windows to replace the existing door and windows to the side elevation and installation of a new door and window to replace the existing to the rear elevation at ground floor level.

44 Racton Road London SW6 1LP 2016/03368/FUL

Demolition of the existing building with the exception of the front facade and party walls, erection of a part one, part two, part four storey plus-basement single family dwellinghouse; formation of a roof terrace at second floor level to the rear elevation.

The Queens Club Palliser Road London W14 9EQ

2016/03397/FUL

Demolition of existing front entrance security buildings, gates and piers and replacement with new security building, gates and piers.

648 King's Road London SW6 2DU 2016/03392/VAR

Variation of wording of condition 31 (noise mitigation measures) from 'prior to commencement of development' to 'prior to occupation of the commercial unit' of planning permission ref: 2014/00836/FUL granted 13th May 2014.

Fiat D 55 Fairholme Road London W14 9JY

2016/03365/FUL

Erection of a rear roof extension, involving an increase in the ridge height.

104 Munster Road London SW6 5RD 2016/03404/VAR

Removal of conditions 18, 19 and 20 of planning permission ref: 2015/03596/FUL granted 1st October 2015 to allow the occupiers of the flat to apply for on street parking permits.

302 - 306 King Street London W6 0RR

2016/03280/FUL

Installation of a new shopfront; installation of 8no air handling units at ground floor level to the rear of the site, installation of an aerial, 2no satellite dishes, raising the height of the existing ramp together with new steps and balustrades on top of the ramp at ground floor level to the rear of the site; formation of a boiler room, refuse storage, cycle parking, balustrades at ground floor level and installation of a new skylight above the roof of the basement extension to the rear of the site; associated internal and external alterations.

79 Black Lion Lane London W6 9BG 2016/03336/FUL

Erection of a rear extension at first floor level to replace the existing conservatory; erection of a single storey rear extension, to the side of the existing back addition; and replacement of the existing railings to the rear terrace at the first floor level with a glass balustrade.

The Hammersmith Ram 81 King Street London W6 9HW 2016/03335/FUL

Erection of a glazed canopy to side elevation at ground floor level fronting Angel Walk to cover part of the existing outdoor seating area; removal of the existing wall and railings and replace with a new wall and glazed panels.

9 King Street London W6 9HR 2016/03438/ADV

Display of a non-illuminated name plate, non-illuminated lettering, non-illuminated vinyls applied to internal glazing, led lighting fixed internally to window shopfront, internally illuminated logo sign, internally illuminated fascia panel and an internally illuminated digital screen to the front elevation.

7 Weavers Terrace Micklethwaite Road London SW6 1QE

2016/03462/FUL

Erection of a rear roof extension to replace the existing dormer window in the rear roof slope; erection of a part one, part two storey side extension at ground and first floor level; erection of a single storey rear extension at the rear of the extended back addition; formation of a roof terrace at second floor level to the side elevation.

The Hammersmith Ram 81 King Street London W6 9HW

2016/03421/FUL

Installation of new extract ducting at roof level to replace existing extract ducting in the rear elevation.

Vacant Building Rear Of 18 Farm Lane London 2016/03043/VAR

Variation of condition 2 to allow amendments to the approved plans and variation of wording of condition 29, 30, 31 and 32 to allow commencement of the development of planning permission ref: 2014/04222/FUL granted 23rd January 2015.

17 Melrose Gardens London W6 7RN

2016/03434/FUL

Erection of a rear roof extension, involving an increase in the ridge height by 400mm and formation of a hip to gable roof extension; installation of two rooflights in the front roof slope.

Maisonette First And Second Floors 9 Wandsworth Bridge Road London SW6 2TA

2016/02902/FUL

Erection of railings and obscure glazed screen around the flat roof at first floor level to the rear elevation, in connection with its use as a terrace.

22,24 And 26 Barton Road London W14 9HD

2016/03436/FUL

Replace all the existing sash timber windows and casement windows to the front and side elevations of no's 24 and 26 with new timber double glazed windows; replace window to front and side elevations at first floor level with new double glazed timber windows to no 22; replace all existing timber sash windows and doors to the rear elevations of no's 22, 24 and 26 new uPVC double glazed windows and uPVC double glazed doors; replace existing roofs with new clay tiles.

8 And 10 Barton Road London W14 9HD

2016/03435/FUL

Replace window to front and side elevations at first floor level with new double glazed timber windows; replace all existing timber sash windows and doors to the rear elevations new uPVC double glazed windows and uPVC double glazed doors; replace existing roofs with new clay tiles.

35 Mall Road London W6 9DG 2016/03338/FUL

Erection of a two storey rear extension at basement and ground floor level; erection of glass panels at upper ground floor level to the rear elevation; formation of new external steps from ground floor to garden level at the rear of the property; conversion of the existing building from 2no self-contained flats into a single family dwellinghouse.

64 Bolingbroke Road London W14 0AH

2016/03373/FUL

Erection of a rear roof extension; excavation of front garden and part of rear garden, in connection with the enlargement of the basement including lowering of the existing basement/lower ground floor level; lowering of the rear garden level; erection of a single-storey rear extension at lower ground floor; changes to the fenestration on the rear elevation including installation of two sash windows at upper ground floor level and two sash windows at first floor level; installation of 3 No. rooflights in the front roof slope.

Former BBC Television Centre Wood Lane London W12

2016/03491/FUL

Continued use of the roof of the Multi-storey Car Park for a rooftop restaurant event for a temporary period of up to 14 weeks from 25 May 2016 to 29 August 2016.

30 - 32 Bradmore Park Road London W6 0DT

2016/03083/VAR

Application for minor material amendments to planning permission (Ref.

2014/01207/FUL) dated 30 September 2014; for the demolition of the existing building and the erection of a predominantly single-storey replacement building (264 sqm GEA), including a double height meeting room space; for use as a place of worship/meeting hall; together with ancillary plant, cycle parking and landscaping. The minor material amendments proposed are for a variation of Condition 2, to allow for revisions to the approved drawings in order to reflect minor façade changes to the design of the consented building.

72 Perrers Road London W6 0EZ 2016/03033/FUL

Erection of railings around flat roof at first floor level in connection with its use as a terrace.

134 Dalling Road London W6 0EP 2016/02547/FUL

Excavation of front garden and part of rear garden to form lightwells, in connection with the enlargement of the basement; erection of an external staircase from ground floor level to basement level. (revised description)

St Peter's Church Of England Primary School 33 St Peter's Road London W6 9BA 2016/03378/FUL

Retention of additional windows and doors on the north elevation at ground and first floor level.

Five Star Car Wash 10B Shepherd's Bush Road London W6 7PJ And W12 And W6 Motors Limited Bam borough Gardens London W12 8QN

2016/03271/FUL

Demolition of the carwash at 10B Shepherd's Bush Road and MOT garage in Bam borough Gardens and redevelopment of the site by the erection of a six storey building plus lower ground floor level fronting Shepherd's Bush Road linked by a three storey rear element to a four storey building plus lower ground floor level fronting Bam borough Gardens, comprising of 28 residential units (10 x 1 bed, 15 x 2 bed, 2 x 3 bed and 1 x 4 bed) and a 88 sq. m office (Use Class B1a) at basement level fronting Shepherd's Bush Road;

Associated plant (including solar panels at roof level), cycle parking, refuse storage, landscaping and repositioned electrical substation; 2 x 4 bedroom, four storey town houses fronting Bam borough Gardens each with integral garages accommodating one car parking space.

4 Palliser Road London W14 9EE 2016/03428/FUL

Replace existing timber sash windows to front elevation with new double glazed timber sash windows; replace all existing timber windows to side and rear elevations with uPVC double glazed windows; replace existing door to rear elevation at ground floor level with new uPVC double glazed door; replace roof tiles with new clay tiles.

22 And 24 Palliser Road London W14 9EE

2016/03429/FUL

Replace all the existing sash timber windows and casement windows to the front and side elevations (excluding ground floor window to front elevation no 24) with new timber double glazed windows; replace all existing timber sash windows and doors to the rear elevations new uPVC double glazed windows and uPVC double glazed doors; replace existing roofs with new clay tiles.

102 - 104 Shepherd's Bush Road London W6 7PD

2016/03424/FUL

Erection of a single storey side infill extension to enclose the existing staircase at the rear of the property; installation of a new shopfront to the side elevation.

Flat D Second Floor 36 Overstone Road London W6 0AB 2016/03425/FUL

Erection of a rear roof extension, involving an increase in the ridge height by 300mm; installation of three rooflights in the front roof slope.

Bus Shelter Outside 19 Wood Lane London W12 7DP 2016/02191/ADV

Display of a freestanding internally illuminated double sided led screen on the public highway measuring 2.370m (height) x 1.340m (width) x 0.350m (depth).

FOR CONSERVATION AREA CONSENT (DEMOLITION WORK) FOR LISTED BUILDING CONSENT

79 Black Lion Lane London W6 9BG 2016/03337/LBC

Erection of a rear extension at first floor level to replace the existing conservatory; erection of a single storey rear extension, to the side of the existing back addition; and replacement of the existing railings to the rear terrace at the first floor level with a glass balustrade.

FOR DEVELOPMENT WHICH MAY AFFECT THE SETTING OR CONTEXT OF A LISTED BUILDING

401 Goldhawk Road London W6 0SA

2016/03363/FUL

Installation of a new dormer window to replace the existing dormer window in the rear roof slope; replacement of the main roof with new roof slates; alterations to the roof of single storey back addition to include the installation of 2no rooflights in the side roof slope; installation of new windows to replace the existing door and windows to the side elevation and installation of a new door and window to replace the existing to the rear elevation at ground floor level.

79 Black Lion Lane London W6 9BG 2016/03336/FUL

Erection of a rear extension at first floor level to replace the existing conservatory; erection of a single storey rear extension, to the side of the existing back addition; and replacement of the existing railings to the rear terrace at the first floor level with a glass balustrade.

The Hammersmith Ram 81 King Street London W6 9HW 2016/03335/FUL

Erection of a glazed canopy to side elevation at ground floor level fronting Angel Walk to cover part of the existing outdoor seating area; removal of the existing wall and railings and replace with a new wall and glazed panels.

The Hammersmith Ram 81 King Street London W6 9HW 2016/03421/FUL

Installation of new extract ducting at roof level to replace existing extract ducting in the rear elevation.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by 29th August 2016. See below for ways of commenting on applications.

THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER 2013

NOTICES UNDER REGULATION 13

Hammersmith Hospital Du Cane Road London W12 0HS 2016/03463/FUL

I give notice that ICH NHS Trust is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Erection of 2 x single storey modular buildings together with the formation of a linked corridor connected to existing modular MRI facility.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by 29th August 2016. See below for ways of commenting on applications.

Signed: **NIGEL PALLACE**

Executive Director for Transport and Technical Services

on behalf of HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL

You can view applications, make comments and monitor their progress on our website: www.lbhf.gov.uk/planning. Click on the 'Planning Online' logo on the Planning Home Page.

You can also E-mail comments to: plancomments@lbhf.gov.uk

You can also inspect details of applications using computers at our office **RECEPTION FIRST FLOOR HAMMERSMITH TOWN HALL EXTENSION KING STREET W6** between 9.00am and 5.00pm, Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays.

If you want to make comments on applications please E-mail them through our website or post them to **DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT SERVICE ENVIRONMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT TOWN HALL KING STREET W6 9JU** by the date shown above. Please include the application reference number and the name of the planning officer. We will try to consider any representations received after the date indicated but this cannot be guaranteed so please reply promptly. For initial enquiries call our information and reception service on **020 8753 1081 or 020 8753 1082**.

Email your sports news, reports and pictures to Tony McDonald at sport@londonweeklynews.co.uk

LONDON WEEKLY NEWS

sport

Rampant R's set benchmark

RANGERS boss Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink is right to urge fans not to get too carried away by his side's comfortable opening day 3-0 hammering of lacklustre Leeds United. R's are unlikely to meet many teams as tepid and toothless in attack as Garry Monk's side were at Loftus Road on Sunday.

JFH said: "I don't want to look back. We are learning from the past but we are looking forward. This is just the start."

"We've got three points on the board, but we need to get better."

"We've set a benchmark now and it's up to us to find consistency. That is the challenge."

"Listen, let's not get carried away. It's just one match. I've forgotten about this

game already."

R's now face consecutive away league games, at Cardiff City on Sunday and Barnsley next Wednesday, when the squad will be boosted by the club's fifth summer signing, highly-rated French forward Yeni Ngbakoto.

Consistency

The 24-year-old has put pen to paper on a three-year deal at Loftus Road after Rangers agreed an undisclosed fee with FC



**LOFTUS ROAD
RANGERS REVIEW**
With Tony McDonald

Metz for the French youth international's services.

"I'm delighted we've got the deal over the line," Hasselbaink told qpr.co.uk, "because there was great interest in him."

"Yeni is a player we've scouted for a long

while and identified as being a player that suits what we are trying to do here at QPR."

Hasselbaink added: "He is a good age. He's got a spur of pace that will cause teams problems, and that is a great asset to have."

■ BOWLES BENEFIT BID – Continued from back page

Bowles, now 67, began his career with Manchester City in 1967 but had to dip into the lower divisions with Bury, Crewe Alexandra and Carlisle United before Rangers' manager Gordon Jago took a £112,000 punt on him in September 1972. It turned out to be one of the club's shrewdest signings, as he went on to establish himself as a huge crowd favourite over the next seven-and-a-half seasons.

Comfortably filling the illustrious boots of another famous No.10 Rodney Marsh, Stan scored 97 goals in 315 senior appearances for Hoops but his immense contribution cannot be measured by statistics alone.

He was one of the greatest entertainers of his time, a maverick showman with a velvet left foot who pulled in the crowds and usually sent them home happy. It was a travesty that such a gifted player won no more than five full England caps.

In 2004, for his elegant creative craft, match-winning flair and colourful personality, on and off the field, fans voted him as QPR's most popular player of all-time.

He left Shepherd's Bush in December 1979 for spells with Nottingham Forest and then Leyton Orient, before ending his career up the road from QPR with their west London neighbours Brentford. He was awarded a testimonial at Griffin Park in 1987 – three years after he retired – but had never received the same recognition at Rangers because he didn't serve the club for 10 years – the standard minimum requirement for testimonials.

Now a determined, proactive group of his most fervent supporters aim to put that right. They have formed a committee with professional PR support made up of John Creith, Stephen

Flannery, Sean Gallagher, Paul Finney and Tony Ryan, who have joined forces with The Blue And The White (TBATW) Twitter fans' group leaders, Jack Taylor and Liam Fitzgerald, plus the people behind the *A Kick Up The R's* fanzine, Dave Thomas, Joanne Connolly and John O'Mahony.

You can sign the online petition at the change.org website, or in person on match days at Loftus Road. Signatures are also being gathered at the grounds of Bowles' former clubs, while it's hoped there will shortly be the option to make a postal vote, too.

Spokesman Stephen Flannery, from Kensal Rise, told LWN: "I and others have direct contact with Tracy – Stan's youngest daughter – and Nick Bowles – Stan's nephew – who fully support a fan-driven initiative, as do all of Stan's family and the great man himself."

In response to cynics who recall Bowles' notorious gambling habit during his playing days and might wonder where monies raised from a charity match will end up, Flannery added: "We have had assurances from Tracy that he can't misuse the money. I believe it goes to a trust gofund which protects usage."

"To several generations Stan is QPR personified – his style of play, skill and effort, his bond with the fans and his humble, friendly nature. He is the reason why many and future generations support QPR."

"Along with Rodney Marsh in previous years, he put QPR on the map, allowing us to dream of glory and almost achieve it. The club is enjoying the benefit of this legacy and always will."

"Fans genuinely care that he receives a benefit to provide him with the best possible sickness care and consolatory comfort to his family."

SIGN FOR STAN >

Online petition: <https://www.change.org/p/tony-fernandes-benefit-match-for-stan-bowles-at-loftus-road>
Follow the Facebook & Twitter pages for updates at: <https://www.facebook.com/StamBowlesBenefitMatch/>



Focus on Craven Cottage

By TONY McDONALD

Stunning start to savour

THE opening weekend results of every season are guaranteed to raise eyebrows. Shocks invariably abound as underdogs topple more fancied opponents who need more time to settle into their stride before normal service is resumed.

But there was something very heartening about Fulham's against-the-odds 1-0 home victory over Championship favourites Newcastle United on Friday that deserves to be savoured a while longer.

It may prove irrelevant by next May but most of the 23,922 at The Cottage, many making a racket with their 'clackers', and thousands more watching on TV were right to get excited about this rare ray of light amid the gloom of recent years.

Maggies' manager Rafa Benitez has lavished £45million on summer signings in a bid to restore them to the Premier League at the first attempt. Whites' coach Slaviša Jokanović has been given a fraction of that budget to finance the purchase of half-a-dozen

newcomers, although possibly others will follow now that Ross McCormack has jumped ship for Aston Villa in a £12m deal.

No-one is expecting big, immobile Matt Smith, whose textbook centre-forward's header from a Tom Cairney corner on the stroke of half-time won the game, to fill McCormack's shooting boots. The Scot not only scored 21 league goals last season, he provided nine assists and will be very difficult to replace.

But maybe Jokanović, this time favouring a 4-2-3-1 formation, can find a way to spread the burden of responsibility throughout a revamped team containing seven debutants.

"It's a great result for us, a perfect start," he said. "I was very pleased, we played like a real football team – really organised, playing all together, suffering all together. And this is good news in my opinion."

"If we follow this way, then we can think about having a better season than we've had in the last few years."

"My team did very well in pre-season

and they showed today that they know what they have to do on the field."

"Generally I was very happy with this game but in front of us is a fight for 135 points, and we have to be ready."

Jokanović is entitled to take as much satisfaction from the clean sheet as the result itself: "We've had difficulties finding clean sheets last season. Today we made a clean sheet and it's great news for us."

"We played against Newcastle, one of the favourites to get back to the Premier League, and my team were exceptionally good physically, tactically. Newcastle is a very big team with an experienced coach."

By the very unpredictable nature of the second tier, the pragmatic Fulham boss knows that tough tests await his men in successive away league games, at Preston North End on Saturday and Leeds United next Tuesday.

"We had fantastic support, it's a great night for us, but this night is going to be over in a few minutes," he continued. "We have to be ready for what's in front of us."



■ ZAFAR Ansari of Surrey Pic: Rob Newell/Digital South

Results suit Surrey

● COUNTY CRICKET ROUND-UP

■ SUNDAY'S Specsavers County Championship draw between Middlesex and Surrey at Lord's suited both local rivals.

By collecting 10 points from the game, first division leaders Middlesex opened up a 13 point lead over second-placed Somerset.

Surrey's maximum 13 bonus points means they ease 23 clear of the relegation zone, although they have played a game more than Nottinghamshire and Hampshire.

The visitors added 32 runs on the last morning before declaring on 266-7, with Ben Foakes unbeaten on 65 and Sam Curran top-scoring with 71. Surrey had posted a formidable first innings score of 415 in which Foakes contributed an unbeaten 63 in support of the outstanding Jason Roy (110) and Rory Burns (88).

Their hopes of an away win soared when the home side collapsed to 82-5 while chasing a highly unlikely 389 to win, with Zafar Ansari taking 4-63.

But Australian George Bailey (110 not out) and James Franklin (70) shared a sixth wicket partnership of 174 as Middlesex batted their way to 278-6 and the draw that keeps them top of the pile with five CC1 matches remaining.

Bailey told middlesexcc.com: "We just hung in there, which is all you can really do when victory is out of reach."

"It was a bit of a mental battle for me. I'm a bit immature and can't concentrate for long, so it was a nice challenge to have to play a different way!"

Surrey's Australian head coach Michael Di Venuto told kiaoal.com: "I'm really pleased with the cricket we've played (at Lord's) over the past four days – for three-and-a-half of those we were outstanding."

"We threw absolutely everything at them (on the last half-day) but their two guys played exceptionally well and sometimes you have just got to doff your cap to them and say 'well played!'"

■ LAST week's other London derby, also at the Home of Cricket, saw Surrey grab a place in the Royal London One-Day Cup quarter-finals at the expense of their neighbours.

In a rain-delayed game reduced from 50 to 16 overs, Surrey – who won the toss and chose to field – won by five wickets on the dreaded Duckworth-Lewis method.

Middlesex, whose innings was disrupted by near persistent drizzle, reached 101-8, with John Simpson top-

scoring on 29.

Although they lost opener Jason Roy to Toby Roland-Jones' first ball of the innings, wicketkeeper Ben Foakes (45) and Zafar Ansari (29 not out) steered Surrey to 105-5 with four balls to spare.

Victory pushed Gareth Batty's team above Hampshire and Middlesex into fourth in the South group to set up a trip to Northants in the quarter-final. The last eight tie will be played at the County Ground on Thursday, August 18 (1.30pm).

Hoists trample over Rhinos

● RUGBY LEAGUE

■ HAMMERSMITH Hills Hoists continued their impressive form with a 34-6 win against Eastern Rhinos.

Hoists showed their intent early on by forcing a goal-line drop out from the kick-off, before scoring from an attacking kick at the following set to break the deadlock.

The green and golds maintained pressure and scored their second try shortly after from another well placed kick into the in-goal area.

The latter stages of the second stanza became a bit more of a scrappy affair, with Hoists guilty of over-playing and forcing passes which led to a poorer completion rate.

Overall, it was a strong performance from Hills Hoists who will be looking to manufacture a similar performance against the same opposition in the semi-final.

Man of the match went to Blake Mackay for his direction from dummy half and his ability to play in different positions later in the game when injuries required a change in formation.

London Weekly News

SPORT

Tuesday, August 9th, 2016

● SPORTS DESK: 07711 169 427

Lukaku is main target

BOSNIAN Asmir Begovic and Frenchman Loic Remy are being used by Chelsea to try and prise open Everton's stubborn resistance in allowing striker Romelu Lukaku to return to Stamford Bridge.

Goalkeeper Begovic wants to play first team football and with Thibaut Courtois remaining head coach Antonio Conte's preferred No.1 choice, and no European action to increase his chances of leaving the subs' bench, he is looking for an exit from SW6.

Everton are still on the lookout for an experienced replacement for keeper Tim Howard, who left them at the end of last season.

Chelsea do not have the best relationship with Everton after the debacle of trying to lure centre-back John Stones to west London last season failed. It left a bitter aftertaste between the two parties.

While Everton are playing hard to get over Lukaku, once the deal for Stones to Manchester City takes place, which will trigger Ashley Williams' move from Swansea City to Goodison Park, that should signal a thawing of tensions between the Blues and the Toffeemen, at least to the point where they will be talking.

Chelsea have a problem when it comes to dealing with Atletico Madrid too. They are unhappy at the constant reports coming from the Spanish club regarding ex-Atletico striker and current Chelsea frontman Diego Costa.

It's got to the point where Chelsea would be almost happy to sell Costa, if they have to, to just about anyone bar Atletico.

To that end, it was no surprise to hear that Costa's agent Jorge Mendes is offering the Brazil-born Spain striker to Italian giants Napoli for £60million.

The Italians need to replace Gonzalo Higuain, who they sold to Juventus in the summer, and the abrasive playing style of Costa fits the bill.

Napoli did buy Polish youngster Arkadiusz Milik from Ajax but Costa is their preferred No.1 hitman.

The one in, one out policy at Stamford Bridge means that until they can be confident of landing Lukaku, then Costa will remain a disgruntled Chelsea player.

Part of Everton's rationale behind stalling on the Lukaku deal is that they expect the Belgium striker's value to increase from £75m to £85m once Manchester United conclude their world-record £98m-plus deal to sign Paul Pogba from Juventus.

Chelsea wanted the transfer done before Pogba arrived at Old Trafford but Everton are hanging on until after. This week should see that deal concluded, at which point Chelsea will offer a final 'take it or leave it' package to Everton for Lukaku.

● By LWN reporter **Paul Lagan**
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■ **ON Monday, Blues face West Ham United at The Bridge in their first Premier League match of the season.**

They concluded their less than successful USA tour with a 3-1 over AC Milan last week, before beating German side Werder Bremen 4-2 in Bremen on Sunday. Eden Hazard, Oscar, Costa and Pedro scored, while new signing N'Golo Kante played 80 minutes.

Speaking after the game, Antonio Conte said: "It was a good victory. We've finished our pre-season, it was very tough and hard in all aspects and we must be pleased to finish with a win."

Right intensity

"It's important to win for confidence ahead of the start of the season. The team started the game in the right way and with the right intensity. There were some bad situations to concede two goals, which I didn't like. We must improve a lot but we were tired after our pre-season."

"We are working very hard to be ready. It will be difficult. We know we have some problems but we are trying to solve them."

"I am pleased with the attitude and behaviour of my players. It's been good and now all of the players need a rest."

"I saw some situations that we are trying during the training session. I want to play with high intensity, to win the ball back very soon after we lose it, to attack with the right balance."

■ **ONE man who won't be with Blues this season is the much-maligned Papy Djilobodji, who has joined Sunderland in a permanent**

transfer after a season on loan at Werder Bremen.

The 27-year-old Senegal defender joined from French side Nantes for £2.7m and moves to the north-east for £8m – what has turned out to be a great deal for Chelsea for whom Djilobodji played part of just one match.

■ **CHELSEA U-23s finished their pre-season preparations with a 2-0 victory over West Ham United on Friday. Goals from Jay Dasilva and Mason Mount secured a comfortable victory.**

They travel to Sunderland on Sunday for their first league fixture.

Three Academy players, Mukhtar Ali, Ruben Sammut and Richard Nartey, have signed new deals.

■ **EX-BLUES star Jody Morris continues to show immense managerial promise, overseeing his fifth pre-season win in charge of the U18s.**

His lads thrashed Derby County 4-0, with Callum Hudson-Odoi and sub Charlie Brown both scoring twice.

Morris said: "Callum took his goals well and it was great for Charlie's confidence to come off the bench and score twice in half an hour. We've had a couple of days away together as a group, which has been nice, and now we look forward to the season starting properly against Fulham in the league this weekend."

"It was a good performance to round off a decent pre-season for us. We wanted to improve the speed of our play, because we've been a little slow in moving the ball and taking too many touches in some recent games."

"We could have scored seven or eight and that has probably been our only criticism of the players this pre-season, in that we've not been clinical enough with the chances created."



■ **TAMMY** Abraham scored on his loan debut



Tammy shines in City lights

■ **EX-Pimlico Academy pupil Tammy Abraham scored his first goal in senior football in a 2-1 win for Championship side Bristol City against Wigan Athletic on Saturday.**

The 18-year-old scoring machine, who has already been described as a £20m player, came off the bench and scored a typical poacher's goal.

Having been with Chelsea on their Stateside tour, Tammy said: "It's been a really hectic couple of days. I was still in America on Thursday and then had a 12-hour flight back to London."

"From there I was driven down to Bristol, where I quite literally signed before training with the lads for the first time."

"I was already tired when I was named on the bench but the adrenalin and excitement kept me going when I came on."

"It's a great way to start the season and make my debut as well. We always felt we were going to get chances in the second half and it was just a matter of when we would score."

"To be fair, I just closed my eyes when I made contact with the ball and I opened them in time to see it hit the back of the net. I was about six yards out when the ball was flicked on to me."

"I just wanted to come on and get a go, because I knew chances would come my way."

Homely atmosphere

Abraham won the FA Youth Cup and UEFA Youth League with Chelsea and last season came on for the first team against Liverpool at Anfield and against champions Leicester City at The Bridge.

His new boss Lee Johnson put in a great deal of work to get Abraham to Bristol and his efforts show the value in creating a homely atmosphere at Ashton Gate, which will allow Abraham to thrive.

He said: "We put an awful lot of work into signing Tammy Abraham, meeting his parents and convincing Chelsea of our philosophy. But we felt he was worth waiting for. He is a top talent and we now have two centre-forwards capable of getting a lot of goals this season."

"I am looking forward to helping a top young player improve. He is a very grounded lad with great parents and we need to keep his feet on the ground and help him develop."

"We've brought in a player who, on the open market, is worth somewhere north of £20m."

"He is renowned for being a bright young English talent and I think Chelsea believe in our project."

"We just need to understand what he wants and where he needs the ball and he will score goals for sure. Tammy is such a humble boy and he has a really bright future."

Rangers fans call for Stan Bowles benefit

● By **Tony McDonald**

■ **QUEENS Park Rangers fans are pushing ahead in their quest to persuade the club to stage a benefit match on behalf of Stan Bowles, arguably their greatest ever player, who was diagnosed with Alzheimer's last year.**

It is hoped that a special charity game for the Loftus Road cult icon will also benefit other good causes.

The club has sent a "positive email" to the supporters' groups behind the campaign, indicating that CEO Lee Hoos is willing to meet them next month, after the transfer window closes, to discuss their proposal in detail prior to submission to the board.

During R's opening game of the season, the 3-0 home victory against Leeds United on Sunday, another 1,130 signatures were added to a petition that now exceeds 4,500 names. When the minimum target figure of 11,000 is reached, the organisers intend to present the petition to QPR owner Tony Fernandes, whom they hope will be persuaded to give the go-ahead to honour the legendary playmaker.

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■ **WUNDERBAR!** Chelsea players celebrate Oscar's (8) goal against Bremen